

A different kind of legal fund
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NEFIR, nurtures law students.
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Get to know your beat dicks
New column has neighborhood
safety tips like that, plus crimes.
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The horror! The horror!
Universal Horror Series
opens at the Castro.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 41 • 8 October 1998

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years



Peptide T inventor Dr. Candace Pert

The other secret of NIMH Feds misled public on Peptide T

Investigative report
by Luke Adams
Exclusive to the B.A.R.

Doug was 34, suffering from HIV-related neuropathy, skin disorders, diarrhea, fatigue, and neurocognitive impairment. When friends got him Peptide T, a synthetic version of the vasoactive intestinal peptide in every human being's body, his symptoms improved within hours of the first dose. But when supplies dwindled, or the \$1,500 annual underground price tag stopped the flow, the pain and numbness returned to his fingers and toes, his skin ailments returned, his intestines roiled, fatigue returned, and his mind and motor skills slowed.

Doug died five years ago, but thousands continue to suffer as he did. And evidence suggests the suffering has been needlessly extended because of an unprecedented press release issued by the National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH) in late 1995, stating its double-blind, placebo-controlled study provided "no evidence that Peptide T has an effect."

NIMH waited more than two years after that press release was issued — until this January — before it finally let the study itself go to press, quietly, in *Archives of Neurology*. That article reported a different conclusion than the press release: "Peptide T was associated with overall cognitive improvement in patients with baseline global deficit

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Celebrities to join HRC's San Francisco party this weekend

National Coming Out Day turns 10

by Cynthia Laird



HRC spokeswoman
Candace Gingrich

Reported domestic violence among LGBT people nearly doubles

by Cynthia Laird

The number of documented cases of domestic violence among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) relationships increased by 41 percent between 1996 and 1997, a new report released Tuesday, October 6 by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) shows. Locally, there was a 67 percent increase in cases in San Francisco, with 891 cases being reported in 1997 compared to 533 in 1996.

The report documents 3,327 cases of LGBT domestic violence incidents in 1997, up 975 from 2,352 cases that were reported in 1996.

San Francisco-based Community United Against Violence (CUAV), which helped write the second annual Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Domestic Violence unveiled the findings at a morning news conference. While the information in the report is based on self-reporting by people served by agencies in 12 cities across the country, Greg

Merrill, CUAV's director of client and advocacy services, said it shows that LGBT people reported incidents of domestic violence more in 1997 than they did in 1996.

The NCAVP is a coalition of LGBT victim advocacy and documentation programs with approximately 25 member organizations. Cities where data was collected included San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, San Diego, Minneapolis, Boston, Columbus, Denver, Chicago, St. Louis, Little Rock, and Cleveland. Some of the member organizations serve an entire state or region, the report noted.

New York and Chicago were the only cities to see a decrease in LGBT domestic violence reporting. New York had 421 cases reported in 1997 compared to 469 in 1996; Chicago had 166 reported cases in 1996 and only 38 reported in 1997. Little Rock had the largest increase in LGBT domestic violence cases reported, there was one case in 1996 compared to 10 in 1997, for an increase of 900 percent. Los Angeles also saw a huge

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Ten years ago this Sunday, October 11, National Coming Out Day (NCOD) was instituted as a way for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people to celebrate coming out and to put a positive spin on what often was a collective defensive reaction to anti-gay activities. The day that was chosen was the anniversary of the first mass gay march on Washington D.C.

A variety of events are taking place this weekend in San Francisco to mark the 10th birthday of NCOD, which was merged with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) in 1993. Previously, NCOD had been the brainchild of activists Rob Eichberg and Jean O'Leary. Under HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch, the day was renamed the National Coming Out Project (NCOP), with yearlong activities that culminate in the observance of NCOD every October 11.

While no one at HRC seems to have an estimation of how many people across the country have come out on National Coming Out days since its inception, HRC, as the country's largest national lesbian and gay political organization, has turned the event into one that has garnered plenty of publicity over the years.

This Saturday, October 10, HRC will pull out all the stops for its biggest fundraiser of the year in San Francisco, the "Coming Out Ball" at the Giftcenter Pavilion. Candace Gingrich, the openly lesbian half-sister of U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Georgia) was named the spokeswoman for the NCOP in late 1994. She will be in town this weekend, attending the gala on Saturday along with Betty DeGeneres, mother of openly lesbian actress Ellen DeGeneres; Joan Rivers; Senator Bob Kerrey (D-Nebraska); and Birch.

The festivities continue Sunday with a public celebration at Dolores Park starting at 2 p.m. that will feature Gingrich, local openly gay politicians such as Assemblywoman Carole Migden and San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno, and openly gay celebrities Dan Butler from NBC's *Frasier* and comedian Patrick Bristow from *Ellen*. Donna Red Wing, the HRC's national field organizer, will also be on hand.

Co-chairs for the gala are Karen Boutilier and Fred Latasa. The event will also be an

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Hey, kids! Unity Jam Day's coming!

*More than 700 youths attended HIV
education, empowerment event last year*

by Cynthia Laird

Mayors of several Bay Area cities have proclaimed next Friday, October 16 "Unity Jam Day," as hundreds of young people are expected to converge on the Ramada Inn in San Francisco for a full day of HIV/AIDS education, empowerment, entertainment, and fun at the fourth annual "Unity Jam." The nonprofit San Francisco organization Health Initiatives For Youth (HIFY) organized the free event for youth, aided by more than 25 other agencies including Walden House and the mayor's office.

The youths attending will use the day to tell their public policy-makers how HIV/AIDS and other health concerns have affected their lives. Last year, Unity Jam attracted more than 700 people under 20 years of age, making it one of the most successful health promotion events for youth in the nation.

Unity Jam will also feature live entertainment planned and implemented by and for youth. Activities include performances by Teens Kick Off (TKO) Theater Group, other various youth musical artists and performers, creative workshops, and a talk show featuring HIV-positive youth.

Youths planning to attend Unity Jam have had an opportunity to nominate other youth for a "local heroes" contest; the winners will be honored at the opening ceremony. Winning entries in past visual art and creative writing contests will be on display during the day, and are scheduled for publication in the program and resource guide material that will be distributed at the conference.

The series of events will culminate with a town hall meeting

among Bay Area school superintendents, community leaders, and youth participants. HIFY Community Health Education Coordinator Kim Compoc said guests will include Berkeley Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Jack McLaughlin, San Jose Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Linda Murray, and San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown.

"This one-day education and advocacy event will further unify, educate, and empower our young people to combat the AIDS epidemic," Brown stated in advance of his appearance.

4,000+ SF HIV+ youths

A major new adolescent HIV testing initiative will be announced at Unity Jam: for the first time in San Francisco, young people will be offered anonymous Orasure testing – which involves no needles or blood – with a pre-test risk assessment on-site at Unity Jam, and later at other special Bay Area youth events.

Youth who test positive will have immediate access to full primary care services, and youth who test negative will be linked to age-appropriate services at the event. The testing at Unity Jam is a collaboration between the San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium, the Oakland Family Care Network, and several other Bay Area testing services.

Compoc said HIV transmission continues well past crisis levels among youth: half of the 40,000 to 80,000 Americans infected with HIV each year are under the age of 25. Every hour of every day, up to four young people in the U.S. become HIV-positive. In San Francisco alone, Compoc said, more than 4,000 young people are believed to be HIV-positive, but most have not been

tested.

Compoc said that figure came from HIV Prevention Planning Council documents and acknowledged that it is a "soft figure."

"I think nobody knows for sure, that's why we are doing the onsite testing," she said.

Compoc said that although it's estimated there are enough HIV-positive young people living in the San Francisco area to fill 200 classrooms, recent data collection efforts show a disproportionately low number of youth are accessing healthcare services through city- and federally-funded clinics and community-based organizations.

In July, HIFY and several other local organizations, including the city's Department of Public Health, opened Dimensions, a weekly clinic specifically designed for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (GLBTQ) youth. Open every Thursday at the Castro Mission Health Center on 17th Street, it offers confidential primary care services including check-ups, immunizations, gynecological exams, and sexually transmitted disease (STD) and HIV testing. GLBTQs ages 12 through 25 can also receive a full range of mental health services, counseling, substance abuse counseling, and referrals. ▼

Unity Jam '98 takes place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Ramada Inn at Market and 8th streets. The hotel is near the Civic Center BART and Muni stations. For more information, call HIFY at (415) 487-5777. For more information about Dimensions, call (415) 863-3636; for an appointment, call (415) 487-7589.

Young queer women's health fair this Saturday

by Liz Highleyman

On Saturday, October 10, the Young Women's program at the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC) will sponsor "Out of the Closets and Into the Sheets IV," the fourth annual health fair and celebration for lesbian, bisexual, queer, and questioning young women. The event is put on by and for women age 25 and younger. Past fairs have drawn nearly 100 young women from around the Bay Area.

The fair will feature workshops, entertainment, and resources from a variety of agencies that provide services for young women. The event will be followed by a dance Saturday evening.

The fair's organizers interpret "health" very broadly. In addition

to general health care, topics that will be explored include sexuality, coming out, safer sex, HIV prevention and treatment, self-defense, domestic violence, body image, substance use, financial stability, and other life issues.

According to Danielle Stringer, the young women's program coordinator, "There aren't very many services available for young lesbian, bisexual, queer, and questioning women...The fair is an opportunity for us to build community, to come together to dialogue about issues affecting our lives, and to get information about the health and social services available to us." ▼

The fair will take place 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th Street in San Francisco. Call LYRIC at (415) 703-6150 x 12 for more information.



Danielle Stringer

Judge grants injunction to United Airlines

by Cynthia Laird

The city of San Francisco lost a round in the ongoing battle to get United Airlines to provide some benefits to domestic partners of its employees at San Francisco International Airport (SFO); on Wednesday, October 7, U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken granted United's request for a preliminary injunction, meaning the current situation will be maintained at least until January, when the city will argue for a summary judgment in an effort to get the airline to comply with parts of the ordinance that were upheld by Wilken in April.

Wilken's ruling followed an October 2 hearing in federal court in Oakland, where both sides argued their respective points. United complained that implementing the city's equal benefits ordinance would be too costly, as several computer systems would have to be reprogrammed, while the city argued that the cost is not enough to meet the burden of being an unreasonable cost.

"I'm disappointed," Chief As-

sistant City Attorney Dennis Aftergut told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Aftergut, the city's lead attorney in the case, said that Wilken's decision means the status quo will be maintained.

Last Friday, Wilken heard arguments from United's lead attorney, Brendan Dolan, and from Aftergut. Dolan argued that to comply with the provisions of Wilken's April decision would cost the airline approximately \$443,000 to reprogram computers to calculate benefits such as bereavement leave and travel. In her April decision, Wilken ruled that the airlines do not have to offer medical and other benefits because air carriers are regulated by the federal government. The dispute with United stems from the company's plans to lease buildings at SFO. The deadline for United to exercise its option on a 23-year, multi-million dollar lease is Monday, October 12.

San Francisco's equal benefits ordinance requires companies doing business with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners if they offer those benefits to spouses. United has resisted offer-

ing even the bereavement leave and travel benefits, and made it clear in court Friday that they'll appeal the eventual outcome of the case if it is not favorable to the company, which is one of the largest employers in the Bay Area, with 20,000 workers, and the largest tenant at SFO.

"United's lawyer said at the hearing that the \$443,000 cost to reprogram computers to provide [benefits] is an unreasonable cost," Aftergut told the *B.A.R.* "That \$400,000 is a drop in the bucket compared to the millions and millions of dollars United makes at SFO."

In court, Dolan argued that United would have to reprogram "five major computer systems," and that effort would be "a major undertaking."

Aftergut argued that Wilken should not grant the injunction because United agreed last year that they would be in compliance with the ordinance by the October deadline. "They signed a contract. It's time to start doing these things," Aftergut told the court. "Equal pay for equal work, that's what these benefits are." ▼

Meeting in October of 1998 in San Francisco to discuss March of 2000 in DC

by Timothy Rodrigues

The Ad Hoc Committee for an Open Process will host a community forum this Wednesday, October 14 to discuss concerns about the proposed Millennium March on Washington for Equal Rights scheduled for April 30, 2000.

"From the moment the proposed rally was first announced by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), controversy has surrounded the event because of its exclusive organizing process, its lack of a grassroots base of support, and a missing po-

litical agenda," the ad hoc committee said in a public statement.

The ad hoc committee was formed by activists from around the country, many of whom were involved in the 1979, 1987, or 1993 marches on Washington, including San Francisco residents Eileen Hansen and Tommi Avicoli Mecca.

"The meeting will give a chance to address the significance of this march plan in the context of our movement," said Hansen. "Our discussion will focus on the state of organizing within the queer movement; whether our movement is inclusive of those who are marginalized in society; how our vision is defined, who is doing the defining, and with what

mandate; and how best to accomplish our liberation in a politically complex time." ▼

The meeting will be from 8-10 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street at 18th in San Francisco; for more information, contact Eileen Hansen at (415) 291-5472/621-5620 or Tommi Avicoli Mecca at (415) 552-0891/431-0891.

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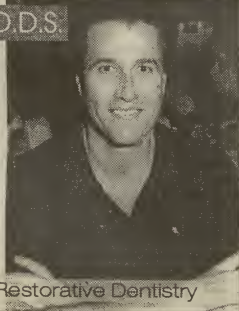
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Fair play in the Castro



Blessed with a rare sunny, windless San Francisco day, high-spirited revelers turned out by the thousands for the Castro Street Fair last Sunday, October 4. Among the more entertaining sights in the crowd was the startling creature known as Transformer (left), who drew appreciative glances everywhere he/she/it went.

AHP swings with the times at Tuesday benefit

by Cynthia Laird

The AIDS Health Project (AHP), a nonprofit affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco, will hold its "Swingin' with the Times" benefit this Tuesday, October 13 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

Among those being honored is William Glenn, the outgoing executive director of Continuum HIV Day Services. Entertainment will be provided by the Andrews Sisters and the Lollipop Guild ensemble of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. The event will feature a light supper buffet and wine tasting, along with a silent auction and live auction.

In its invitation for the event, AHP stated, "Change requires flexibility. The shifts of the past—the rate of AIDS-related deaths has declined, but the rate of new

HIV infection has doubled—have traced a new epidemic."

However, according to the Mayor's HIV/AIDS Summit report that came out in January, the estimated annual incidence of new HIV infections has actually declined significantly in recent years. "San Francisco's prevention programs have made a significant impact in reducing the number of new infections," the report stated. "The Department of Public Health's Consensus Report on HIV Prevalence and Incidence in San Francisco estimates that there will be 500 new HIV infections in 1997, a significant decline from previous estimates."

Colm Hegarty, with AHP, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that a corrected mailer went out to everyone who was sent an invitation on Tuesday, October 6. Despite the differences in estimates, AHP remains dedicated to the more than

10,000 clients served by the organization. The organization's services help people cope with the emotional challenges of HIV disease, adhere to complex treatment regimens, address personal loss, among other services.

"Swingin' with the Times seems a light-hearted theme, and we do invite you to enjoy a moment away from the epidemic," stated AHP's invitation. "But, it is also an acknowledgment of the stress that change brings with it and the value of moving in synch."

Tickets to the event start at \$125 per person. ▼

The benefit starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Fairmont Hotel, California and Mason streets. If you need financial assistance to attend, call Colm Hegarty at (415) 502-5859.

AIDS deaths fell 47% nationwide last year

UPI Science News

Federal health officials are reporting an unprecedented decline in AIDS-related deaths. Age-adjusted death rates from HIV infection in the U.S. declined 47 percent from 1996 to 1997, and HIV infection fell from 8th to 14th among leading causes of death in the United States over the same time.

The figures come from a report on preliminary vital statistics for the nation in 1997 released Wednesday, October 7 by the National Center for Health Statistics, a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

For those aged 25-44, HIV dropped from the leading cause of death in 1995 to third-leading in 1996 and now fifth-leading in 1997. The age-adjusted HIV death rate of 5.9 deaths per 100,000 is the lowest rate since 1987, the first

year mortality data were available for the disease. The 1997 rate is less than half the 1992 rate (12.6 percent) and almost one-third the rate in 1995 (15.6 percent).

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala said the decline in AIDS deaths is primarily due to the continuing impact of highly active antiretroviral therapy in helping people with HIV live longer and healthier lives.

At the same time, she emphasized that success in treating those with HIV does not mean the nation can relax its efforts to prevent HIV transmission.

"Today's report is very good news for the nation, and the tremendous decline in AIDS deaths is particularly striking. These figures mean that new treatments have been very effective in extending the lives of people who already have HIV infection—but they do not mean that we have significantly reduced HIV

transmission," Shalala said.

She added, "We are working to see that people with AIDS get access to the dramatic new therapies that are available. Even more important, however, is our continuing task of preventing new cases of HIV. Our ultimate goal is to prevent the estimated 40,000 new HIV infections that occur each year."

According to the CDC, other available data suggests that, while death rates are improving dramatically, the total number of people living with HIV is still increasing.

The report features preliminary data collected through the National Vital Statistics System from over 90 percent of all birth and death records. The information on causes of death is recorded on death certificates by physicians, medical examiners, and coroners, and reported to the states. ▼

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Carnal Carnival, forum kick off Sex/Life series

by Liz Highleyman

This year's Sex/Life series, co-sponsored by the Harvey Milk Institute (HMI), Eros, Scarlet Letter Services, and the Stop AIDS Project, gets underway this weekend with a forum on Saturday, October 10 and the fifth annual Carnal Carnival on Sunday, October 11.

The Stop AIDS community forum on Saturday, entitled "SF: The Good Old Days," will focus on how the city's queer sexual culture has changed over the years. Panelists are Supervisor Tom Amiano, Daddy Allan Selby of Mr. S. Leather, community organizers Catherine Cusik and Hank Wilson, and Paul O'Malley of the Department of Public Health.

The Carnal Carnival, described as a "four-ring circus," will feature safer sex demonstrations, live entertainment, games, and special guest appearances. Frank Strona of Scarlet Letter Services will explain how to create a hot scene on a small budget, and Carol Queen, Robert Lawrence, Buzz Bense, and others will regale attendees with erotic readings. Although the Sex/Life series is geared towards gay and bisexual men, the Carnal Carnival is open to people of all genders.

The Sex/Life series of 26 forums, workshops, discussion groups, and hands-on classes will run throughout October and November. The organizers describe the series as "a radical innovation in sex education for gay and bi men" designed to facilitate the exchange of information and encourage healthy sexual choices. According to Strona, "Participants will get the chance to not only talk

about sex, but to try it out and practice under supervision."

Other offerings include "I'm Beautiful Dammit!," an exploration of gay men's body image issues, on October 12; "Rituals of Erotic Self Loving for Men," by EroSpirit Research Institute Director Joseph Kramer on October 13; "X-men," a look at four decades of male porn stars, a four-class series beginning on October 14; and "Man Massage," presented by the Eros massage staff, on October 18 and 25.

Other intriguing titles include "I Want to Bareback, So What?," a panel discussion on October 19, and "Suck That Dick!," a conversation about the risks of oral sex. David Silven and Baruch Gold will discuss "Sex After 40" on October 27.

Moving into November, Eddie Kaufman explains how to be a safer sex slut in a two-session course on November 1 and 8. Strona and HMI Director Kevin Schaub look at "The Demands of Masculinity" on November 3, and the Stop AIDS Project explores "Sex in Cyberland" on November 4. San Jose Leathermasters will hold a presentation on "Toys for Boys" on November 5, and Strona returns with Kurt Wagner to talk about "Dating Basics for Men" on November 9. Matt Rice will lead a discussion about "Queer FTM Sexuality" on November 11, and members of Stop AIDS will talk about popper use on November 16.

On November 17, Strona will present "A Consumer's Guide to Sex Clubs," and Strona and Eros owner Bense will discuss "Butt Play" on November 18. The series concludes on November 19 with "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner,"

a conversation about cross-cultural dating. ▼

The Stop AIDS forum will be held at 2 p.m. Oct. 10 at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street. The Carnal Carnival on October 11 will run from 1-5 p.m. at Eros at 2051 Market Street. Donation \$5-15. A complete Sex/Life series listing can be found in the HMI Fall 1998 course catalog. Call (415) 552-7200 for more information.

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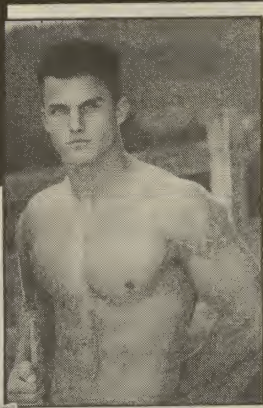


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GLOBE to hold annual dinner Sat.

by Cynthia Laird

Gays and Lesbians Organized for Betterment and Equality (GLOBE) of Southern Alameda County will host its fifth annual dinner this Saturday, October 10 at Christ Lutheran Church in San Lorenzo. The event will celebrate two contributors to the East Bay gay community as well as National Coming Out Day, which is October 11. Interested community members are welcome to attend, and co-chair Charlene Shores said they're expecting a good turnout.

GLOBE is a political action organization that was co-founded by the late Pryor Conrad about five years ago. The group supports local candidates for public office who support gay and lesbian rights. The organization also works toward improving East Bay communities for sexual minorities, including people living with AIDS. Kevin Dowling, a former president of GLOBE, was elected to the Hayward City Council in June, the first openly gay person to hold a seat on that governing body.

Those being honored at the

upcoming dinner are Ken Athey and Karl Debro. Athey is the former coordinator for the annual gay youth prom held in Hayward. He is a longtime GLOBE supporter, and served on its board. Debro is a teacher at San Leandro High School and advises the school's gay/straight student alliance.

Earlier this year controversy erupted at San Leandro High School when two lesbian students were harassed to the point that they left the campus. Debro, a heterosexual teacher who sponsored the gay/straight alliance, was targeted by Parents Interested in Public Education (PIPE). Complaints were made against him for his role in speaking on behalf of gay and lesbian students and a lesbian science teacher who has since left because of threats against her. ▼

Tickets to the dinner at \$20 each and can be purchased at the door. The church is located at 100 Hacienda in San Lorenzo. For more information, call Charlene Shores at (510) 538-9722 or Mary Lavelle at (510) 538-7044.

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Pole poll polemic

It's a shame democracy is so unsightly. Today we heard from a member of the community who would like to organize a rally in support of President Clinton, or at least against the posse of Congressional vigilantes who seem so intent on a lynching. He hopes to find like-minded individuals who would be willing to take to the streets, or rally in a park, or do something to show we don't have to — or plan to — stand around with our hands and tongues tied while the right wing destroys our country. That's certainly laudable, and encouraging.

The problem, of course, is that we aren't living in the old days, when he and other would-be grassroots organizers could slap handbills up on telephone and light polls in the Castro to reach thousands of other community members and get them involved. Now the Castro is under the thumb of anal retentive freaks who consider handbills "messy," and tear them down for the sake of good order and neighborhood beautification. We've said it before, but it bears repeating: we would rather live in a world free of bigotry than a neighborhood free of posters.

So again, we urge the Castro Poster Patrol members to reconsider their mission. Although the campaign against flyers was no doubt started with the best intentions, we hope they will realize by now that their efforts can only help the right wing. Knowledge is power and anything that prevents the free flow of information is dangerous, whether it's bluenoses forcing censorship upon the rest of the world in the name of "decency" or neatniks blocking communication because it isn't "pretty."

We also urge everyone who would like to participate in a rally calling for an end to the Republican-led investigation/impeachment/inquiry thing to call Frank Uranick at (415) 928-1102. He's the guy who called us with the idea, and he could use as much help as people can give.

It is important to distinguish between a pro-Clinton rally and an anti-inquiry rally. The difference is substantial for those of us who are still pissed off about the "Don't

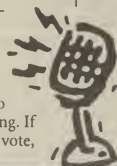
Ask, Don't Tell" betrayal and the White House's gratuitous unkindness in the days leading up to the Defense of Marriage Act: many of us would not go to a rally in support of William Jefferson Clinton, but we will go to a rally denouncing Ken Starr, Newt Gingrich, and Henry Hyde.

It is all the more important to do so, now that polls show the percentage of registered voters who plan to vote next month is declining. If this isn't a year for progressives to vote, when is? It's never a good thing for people to take their voting rights and responsibilities lightly, much less shirking them altogether, but it's especially upsetting to see that happening now when every vote is so desperately needed.

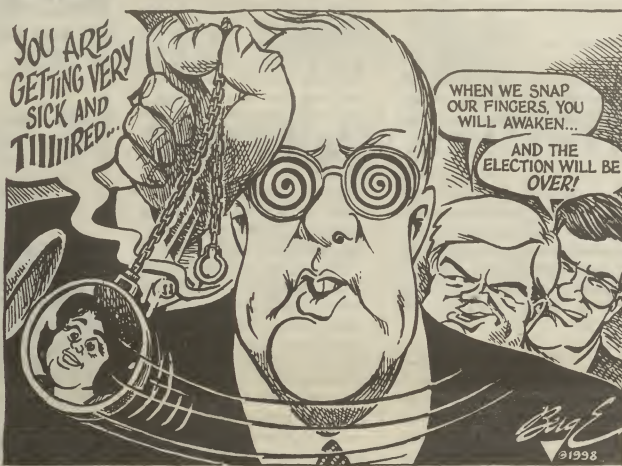
There is much more at stake than just the midterm Congressional elections (although certainly that's worth paying atten-

tion to); if Barbara Boxer and just a few other Democratic senators go down to defeat, the GOP will have a filibuster-proof Senate; if Gray Davis fails to carry the governor's race we will have Dan Lungren — a man who filed legal briefs in support of Colorado's Amendment 2 — setting policy; if Delaine Eastin is not returned as California's superintendent of public instruction, that department will be run by a candidate funded (and directed) by the worst elements of the right wing. And so on.

Resist any temptation to give in to Ken Starr's long-running assault on our right to choose our own elected officials. Don't sleep now, when every person must be counted on to fight. And it's so easy to fight back (for now, at least); all it takes is a trip to the polls on Election Day. If we fail to do that much, the fight will get much, much harder very soon. ▼



Editorial

The Good Old Days:
Looking back, moving ahead

by David Ortmann

You just don't understand where I am coming from."

We've all heard that one before, the suggestion that we just don't "get it." When I hear it, my politically correct feathers get a bit ruffled and my first instinct is to say, "Of course I understand! I am a great listener!" But, when it comes right down to it, being a good listener has very little to do with really understanding another's experience or where they are coming from. In other words, I could polish my listening skills from now until Governor Wilson headlines at Finocchio's, and still miss the boat on really understanding an experience of which I am not directly a part.

As a young gay man, I find one of the eras I understand the least, and perhaps romanticize the most, is the 1970s. It was a time of celebration, of good music, of sex before latex, of believing that you would grow in the company of all your friends and they would grow old beside you. Man, it was the good old days!

Or was it? You see, I don't know. I wasn't there.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s I was your average closeted kid living in suburban New Jersey. To me, Sylvester was not an extraordinary drag disco diva but a cartoon cat that terrorized Tweety Bird. My days were filled with trying to survive a chemistry class with a teacher who missed no opportunity to hurl homophobic slurs my way and trying to avoid bashings in the gym locker room. I spent my days trying to survive long enough to grow up. At the same time, unbeknownst to me, men like me

were struggling to survive the beginnings of an epidemic about which there was a pathetic lack of information and incredible misunderstanding. AIDS had hit our community and it seemed that the good old days had finally come to an end.

I want to know what life was like before the AIDS epidemic hit. I want to know how the music sounded, what the bars were like, what people talked about, what issues they organized around. What were the good old days? What happened to them? How can I create my own good old days in a community that has been hard-hit by AIDS and is becoming increasingly unsure concerning the direction of HIV prevention? While I was not at the Stud listening to Donna Summer in 1979, I do have a strong desire to understand the history of my community in this city. More importantly, I have a stake in the future of that community.

But where can this cross-generational dialogue take place? Are there others out there with similar questions and curiosities? If so, where do we come together to talk and learn from one another? Maybe such a place does not exist?

Or does it? The STOP AIDS Project, continuing its tradition of sponsoring provocative and innovative community forums, is sponsoring just such a forum at 2 p.m. this Saturday, October 10 at the Metropolitan Community Church. It's called "The Good Old Days," and it's about the good old days, the myths as well as the realities. Panelists include San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano, Daddy Alan Selby — founder of Mr. S.

Leather — and other surprise guests.

The forum is also about us, the queer community of San Francisco, and how we can create a future as a community around sex and HIV during this crucial time when discussions of prevention no longer seem fashionable and when new HIV treatments are mistakenly seen as the cure we have all been waiting patiently for.

As we approach the new millennium, there is a lot happening in our community. Not least among these is the realization that some gay and bisexual men are continuing to engage in high-risk behavior.

In order to understand where we are going, it's crucial to understand where we've been and what happened there. As a young gay man, I celebrate this unique and long overdue opportunity to come together with

young queers, old queers, city politicians, performers, organizers, activists, writers, and generally interesting humans as we discuss our past and strategize for our future together.

So I hope to see you there at the forum Saturday, at Metropolitan Community Church (150 Eureka Street at 18th) at 2 p.m. I'll be the guy in the corner with the Walkman, trying to imagine exactly what it was like to be listening to Donna Summer on a Saturday night at the Stud over two decades ago.

For further information please call (415) 575-0150. ▼

David Ortmann is a writer, a student of social work, and a community organizing intern at the Stop AIDS Project.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Fight at the okay chorale?

On September 26, at Davies Symphony Hall, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus celebrated its gala 20th anniversary concert as the oldest gay chorus in the world with two important world premieres of commissioned music. The performance was broadcast live on Bay TV channel 35, with corporate sponsorship by AT&T. The following B.A.R. issue Arts & Entertainment section included an article on the SF Symphony, which was out of town on tour at the time, but no mention of this historic performance.

The B.A.R. masthead states "Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years." The SFGMC is one of, if not the, most important gay musical institution in the nation; the SF Symphony is more than adequately covered by the local straight press. It is beyond me how an omission of this magnitude can have occurred. How is it that lesbian and gay cultural groups achieve mainstream recognition (viz.: live TV coverage and major corporate sponsors), while being denied that recognition and validation by the local gay press?

Randy Kikukawa
San Francisco

[The arts editor responds: We ran an advance item on the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus anniversary concert in our September 24 issue, helping to get the word out on the gala event. We don't apologize for choosing to review the SF Symphony.]

Mary me a little

Tom Polcari's breathless Guest Opinion (September 24) of his sighting of the Blessed Virgin Mary reaches a new dimension in spiritual egotism. The Mother of God shows no concern for Protestants and Catholics killing each other in Ireland, or Christian religious "cleansings" in ex-Yugoslavia, or the formation of a new religious Dark Age in Afghanistan. Instead, the Christian goddess reveals herself as something really important — a fag hag!

Settle down, Tom. Visions happen all the time. We call them hallucinations.

Jim Hicks
San Francisco

Not marching in step with the Rev.

Troy Perry, in his response to the Ad Hoc Committee for an Open Process, has written one of the more disingenuous letters to come out of this Millennium March On Washington fiasco so far. (It can be read on the MCC/MMOW website.)

He pulls out quotes from the Ad Hoc Committee's ad and simply states "This is false." Yet as much as he claims otherwise, evidence points to the fact that the table for MMOW was set by the MCC and HRC long before any input by other organizations (including people of color and others) and now we are all invited to pull up a chair where the menu is already prepared. He wants us all on board now, but why were we not asked from the beginning?

Perry sees no problem with inviting the Ad Hoc Committee to have one vote at the June planning meeting — the same as all 40 other organizations represented at that meeting. Yet the Ad Hoc Committee is made up from 300 organizations and individuals. If they are interested in true democracy as claimed, let them open up planning meetings to all in the committee and give them all a vote.

While most of Perry's statements are disturbing in their half-truths, the pronouncement that I found really telling was his playing the same card as the theatrical right: that "within our community" (read: the Ad Hoc Committee) there is "significant hostility" to "spirituality." (I haven't found much hostility toward spirituality in our community; just against Christianity in its fundamentalist anti-queer form.) This tactic of crying "religion-bashers" is an attempt to sidetrack the very real issues of their exclusionary process. It is atrocious that he uses this tactic of our enemies.

It is not religion-bashing to have legitimate concern about MCC, as an evangelical Christian church dedicated to converting people to Christianity, having a significant amount of control over the message of the MMOW and the messages allowed a platform from the stage at the march. And just as many of us have the same concern about HRC. As the organization that invited Clinton to its dinner after he signed the Defense of Marriage Act and after he screwed over queers in the military, I find HRC to be an extremely assimilation-focused organization and I do not follow their "leadership" of our movement. Nor do I want them shaping the message of the MMOW.

I, along with many others of our LGBT community, will support the Task Force's 1999 state events, but will not be going to Washington in 2000. Without any significant participation by many of us that laid the groundwork for the previous three MOWs, it remains to be seen how this MMOW will take shape.

Rob Petitpas
Chair, National Lawyers Guild LGBT Committee

Former Wilson man speaks out

Even as a former appointee of Governor Wilson as Special Assistant at the Department of Industrial Relations (which enforces numerous employment discrimination statutes, including the prohibition on sexual orientation discrimination), I must protest the governor's veto of Assembly Bill 2156. ("Wilson Veto Targets Workers," B.A.R. Sept. 25, 1998.)

Currently, an individual must file a discrimination complaint with the labor commissioner within 30 days of the occurrence of an allegedly discriminatory act. AB 2156 would have extended this absurdly brief deadline to one year. When I worked in the administration, I considered such an extension necessary.

A common issue in cases before the labor commissioner is whether the complainant filed within the 30-day deadline. The problem behind many of these untimely filings is that the complainant was unaware that such an unexpectedly short deadline exists, or even which agency investigates a particular type of discrimination. Often, an employee needs time to decide whether discrimination possibly occurred and then to decide whether to pursue a complaint. AB 2156 would have provided a more reasonable amount of time to do so.

The governor felt this simple extension was "unnecessary" because the labor commissioner can extend the deadline for "good cause." However, the term "good cause" carries little substance. The labor commissioner considers "good cause" to be when a complainant made certain efforts during the 30-day period to file a complaint. The efforts that will result in a finding of "good cause" are a verifiable effort to contact another agency or an elected official in an effort to file a complaint. In other words, a search within the 30-day period to find the proper agency with which to file a discrimination complaint will provide "good cause." Lack of knowledge of the 30-day deadline will not. Even a complaint mailed before the 30-day deadline but not received until after the deadline will not. With such a limited meaning, "good cause" is a fig leaf and an insufficient ground to justify the veto.

AB 2156 would have saved employers and employees time and money. An individual who misses the 30-day filing deadline still can pursue a civil lawsuit. In his veto message, the governor thought that avenue an adequate recourse. However, a civil lawsuit is an unnecessary drain upon parties when a complete and efficient process exists through the labor commissioner.

After an investigation, the labor commissioner issues a decision and has the authority to order certain remedies. This process resolves a matter more quickly than litigation and at a much lower cost. Ironically, the governor frequently has urged various legal reforms to reduce litigation costs and promote litigation alternatives. He particularly has done so in the employment discrimination area. AB 2156 would have expanded the availability of a process that is an alternative to costly litigation. The governor's veto of AB 2156 stands plainly inconsistent with his legal reform policy objectives.

Finally, the governor stated that extending the deadline to one year would encourage the filing of "frivolous" complaints. This nonsensical argument also is inconsistent with the governor's past actions. Plus, it has shades of his infamous AB 101 veto message. Even if AB 2156 led to more frivolous complaints, a quicker and more efficient approach to frivolous complaints would be to resolve them through the labor commissioner's administrative process rather than forcing them into civil court (where they can be filed anyway even after the 30-day deadline).

Already, individuals who file complaints for discrimination covered by the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) have one year to do so. The governor, who claims to have signed more civil rights bills than any governor in California history, has even signed several bills expanding the types of discrimination prohibited by the FEHA. The FEHA's one-year statute of limitations applies to all complaints filed under those bills, but the governor raised no concerns about "frivolous" complaints in those contexts. However, the governor vetoed AB 101, which would have included sexual orientation in the FEHA with its one-year statute of limitations by arguing that it imposed an unfair and burdensome process upon employers even though most discrimination complaints fall within that process.

Because AB 2156 would have expanded the number of sexual orientation discrimination complaints (among other types) and the Wilson administration has had an evident political fear of any measure that could be construed as favoring lesbians and gay men, I am not surprised that the governor vetoed AB 2156 and used specious arguments to do so. Frivolous? Unfair? Burdensome? Sadly, given the above record, the answer apparently depends on who complains of discrimination.

Paul R. Lynd
Northridge, CA

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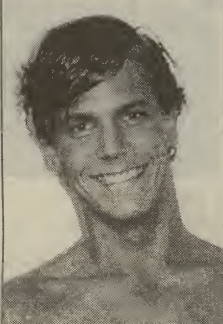
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On the beat

by Ron McGlashan

Working in cooperation with the San Francisco Police Department Office of Public Affairs, this column will enumerate recent police activities in the Castro and Polk areas, inventory the concerns of the merchants and other people who frequent the areas, and list ways to make our neighborhoods safer.

The officers on those beats will work to ensure that the significant incidents are accurately covered. When appropriate, follow-up reports will detail what happens to suspects at subsequent court appearances and other relevant outcomes.

The Castro

A hot prowling cluster in the Castro
September 24, throughout the Castro: Several Castro Street establishments were burglarized in broad daylight when the merchants were still in the stores. The suspect entered through the back doors of the establishments and took off with goods and cash. This is called a "hot prowling" incident. On October 1, a suspect meeting the description given to police was arrested in the Castro area and taken into custody on charges of burglary.

Castro Street beating in broad daylight

September 26, 2:30 p.m., Castro Street between Market and 18th: A man was attacked and beaten on the sidewalk in broad daylight for no known reason. Bystanders watched, but offered no assistance. Police made a report, and paramedics transported the victim to San Francisco General Hospital. No suspect was caught.

ATM hold-up in the Castro

September 24, 9:30 a.m., at Castro and Market streets: A man withdrew money from an ATM machine and walked up Market toward 14th Street. He was approached by a man in his late 20s

who claimed to have a knife. The victim was told to hand over his money, or he would be killed. The victim handed over \$400 in cash and the suspect ran down Market Street. Police made a report, but were unable to locate a suspect.

Polk Street

'Dancer for money' beats up man on Van Ness

September 20, 10:30 p.m. on Van Ness Avenue between Turk and Golden Gate: A local

"dancer" in the area savagely beat her male customer about the head and shoulders before a group of confused onlookers. She screamed, "Honey, if you can't pay the fee, then don't ask for the dance" and announced the man was \$100 short of the agreed amount for a private audience. Police were unable to get either side to press charges and the facts given were too vague to make a prostitution related arrest on either party. The man was humiliated and the audience was hysterical. This was a mutual combat.

Polk Street stabbing

September 22, 2:30 a.m., Polk and Pine streets: A bartender in the area was stabbed in the back as he attempted to remove a person from the bar who had been accused of attempting to steal another customer's belongings. During the confrontation, the bartender was stabbed and the suspect fled the bar. The bartender was transported to San Francisco General Hospital and underwent emergency life saving surgery. The police were not able to find the suspect.

Scottish bartender rolled on Polk Street

September 24, 3 a.m., Polk and Pine streets: A Polk Street bartender had just closed up for the night. As he left the bar, a middle-aged male attacked him from the

rear and knocked him to the ground. The victim suffered minor injuries and was treated on the scene by paramedics. A description of the attacker was given, but police in the area were unable to find the suspect.

As you may notice, the crimes listed above (with the exception of the hot prowling incident) have one thing in common: no suspects were taken into custody. For whatever reason, there is a lack of communication between the police department and the people in the community. There is a solution.

Officer Sherman Ackerson of the SFPD Public Affairs Office invites anyone who is concerned about neighborhood

crime to attend regularly scheduled community meetings on the subject.

Castro residents should be aware that Captain Gregory Suhr of the Mission Station, located at 17th and Valencia, hosts community meetings on the last Tuesday of every month. Polk residents may attend meetings hosted by Captain Walter Cullop on the first Thursday of every month at the Northern Station, located on the corner of Turk and Webster Street in the Western Addition. Both meetings start at 6:30 p.m.

Make a list of your concerns and bring it to the meeting. This is not a hostile environment, but a chance to put heads together and come up with solutions to problems. Don't come alone; bring a friend. If you bump into your local beat officers, talk to them and ask about the meetings.

Until next week, be safe. ▼

The number to the Mission Station, located at 17th and Valencia, is (415) 558-5400. The number to the Northern Station, located at Turk and Webster, is (415) 553-1563.

TNDC's 'Celebrity Pool Toss VI' is Wed.

by Cynthia Laird

How much would you pay to toss embattled newlywed Muni chief Emilio Cruz into a pool? Some lucky person will win that opportunity this Wednesday, October 14, when the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TNDC) hosts its famous "Celebrity Pool Toss VI" poolside at the Phoenix Hotel.

Cruz, the director of the city's

beleaguered Muni system, is one of the local "colorful characters" who will make a splash at this year's event to raise money for TNDC's after-school program for kids in the Tenderloin.

Top bidders buy the right to toss Cruz and other celebrities - including Olympic gold medal winner Jonny Moseley; actor Robin Williams; Supervisor Mabel Teng; Sister Bernie Galvin; and Betsey Johnson - into the pool as a capacity crowd cheers. The popular event raised nearly

\$150,000 for the program last year. San Francisco Supervisors Mark Leno and Gavin Newsom will serve as hosts.

Tickets are \$50 per person. The festivities are set to begin at 6 p.m. and end at 9. If all goes according to Muni schedule, Cruz should hit the water around midnight. ▼

The Phoenix Hotel is located at 601 Eddy Street; call (415) 551-5190 for more details.

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POLITICS

Davis gains momentum; Lungren turns negative

by Wayne Friday

After watching Democratic gubernatorial nominee **Gray Davis** score an endorsement coup last week by picking up the backing of the state's powerful prison guard union – the first time the influential California Correctional Peace Officers Association (CCPOA) has ever endorsed a Democrat for governor – and after learning that he is trailing in at least two recent polls, Republican nominee **Dan Lungren** has shifted his campaign to a more negative, abrasive style.

Even Lungren's handlers privately admit that their man got hammered by Davis in the September 23 debate, and now realize that the Lungren campaign is indeed in real trouble: his early running television ad about character went nowhere, just

like his response to Davis's attack on the abortion issue. Some of Lungren's own polls reportedly show him running from eight to 14 points behind Davis, and a recent poll in heavily Republican Orange County show Lungren with only a lead there of only six percentage points, spelling disaster in an area that Republican statewide candidates usually carry in the 20 percent range.

Particularly disheartening to the Lungren campaign was last week's endorsement of the statewide prison guard union, one of the state capital's most politically active unions, and in donations alone the group has always supported Republicans, having given **Pete Wilson** more than \$1.5 million during his gubernatorial campaigns. While both Davis and Lungren claim a list of law enforcement endorsers, the CCPOA endorsement is particularly important to Davis and discouraging to the Lungren campaign if for no other reason than that Lungren is currently the state's attorney general, and as such the top law enforcement official; consequently, the pro-Davis endorsement of the powerful union flies in the face of the long-held feeling among some voters that Republicans somehow handle the crime issue better than Democrats.

CCPOA President **Don Novey**, making the announcement of Davis's endorsement, said "we've watched Gray Davis grow in office; we think he's also matured in the field of crime; he's obviously the better candidate." In the September debate, the GOP nominee stumbled badly by linking major law enforcement groups to Warriors basketball star **Latrell Sprewell**; some think the statement could cost Lungren as many as 150,000 votes, but union officials say that the choice to endorse Democrat Davis was made well before Lungren's comments.

Responding to recent polls showing him falling behind Davis, the Lungren campaign has already unleashed two negative attack television ads – one accusing Davis of lying about the three-strikes law – and reported-

ly have at least two other negative ads waiting to be run on television statewide.

Politics and people

As if Lungren's gubernatorial campaign wasn't in enough trouble with voters, Governor Wilson's veto last week of two controversial gun control bills (including one that would have banned the sale of those junk Saturday night specials) brings the Republican nominee more problems. If Davis reminds the voters that Lungren is in total lockstep and agrees with Wilson's vetoes, it can't help the GOP nominee.

Politically, Wilson is looking past the current governor's race with his vetoes of the gun bills; he is looking to yet another run for president in 2000 and no way is he going to alienate the powerful gun lobby, despite the fact his veto pen gives Davis a real

issue to use against Lungren – Davis: "Elect me in November, and I'll sure sign those bills; elect my opponent and get more of the same we are getting from Pete Wilson."

Also last week, Wilson vetoed legislation by Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** that would have required doctors and health officials to report HIV cases through an anonymous coding system, rather than names; the bill would have California join a handful of states that are developing anonymous HIV reporting systems; more than 30 states require HIV reporting by name. "This veto is a sacrifice to the right wing," said Migden. "This bill was a well-balanced public health measure to improve HIV epidemiology while providing security for people who fear HIV testing because they do not want their name given to the government."

On the other hand, Wilson's recent signing of a bill that moves California's presidential primary up to March 7 in 2000 is one of his smarter moves; New York's is the same day, creating a "national primary" if you will, and will bring major candidates – and their big money – into the state like never before.

Democratic party insiders say the choice for the 2000 national convention has been narrowed to Philadelphia or Los Angeles, with veep **Al Gore** reportedly "neutral"; look for Senator **Dianne Feinstein** to be instrumental in landing the Demo confab in L.A.

Gore's political action committee, by the way, has handed out over half a million dollars to Demo House candidates around the country, including openly lesbian **Christine Kehoe**, a San Diego councilwoman who is seeking a congressional seat in that city.

President **Bill Clinton's** lawyers are close to settling the **Paula Jones** case for a reported \$700,000; remember when Jones was saying "this isn't about money" and what she really wanted was a public apology? Well, now it seems it's all about money (she originally was asking for \$1 million) – proving, I guess that Paula's demands are as con-

sistent as the nose on her face.

Does Slick Willie know about this one? Enterprising gas stations in western China have taken service to new heights by offering sex with a tank of gasoline. Some of the 1,000-plus filling stations in the area have reportedly been luring motorists with the service of hookers along with petrol and diesel oil, an industry publication noted. "Sometimes there is no clear dividing line whether the customers come for gas or sex, but the sex service is with the condition that you have to buy petrol first," said *China OGP*, which is published by the official Zinhua news agency.

Oh, yes, the big drag favorite this year is indeed **Monica Lewinsky**; costume and wig shops in New York, L.A. and, of course, San Francisco report an early Halloween demand of Lewinsky type wigs and blue cocktail dresses.

The *Los Angeles Times*, *San Jose Mercury News*, and *San Francisco Chronicle* have all endorsed incumbent state Superintendent of Public Instruction **Delaine Eastin** for another term to the non-partisan office over her ultra-conservative opponent.

Democrat's running for Congress and governor around the country are understandably nervous about having President Clinton sharing the stage with them before the November 3 election, but First Lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** is very much in demand; when Mrs. Clinton appeared a couple of weeks ago at a \$250 per head luncheon at the Fairmont for Senator **Barbara Boxer**, event organizers expected 400 people but had to make last-minute room for 1,150 paying attendees.

The popular drag a cappella quartet, The Kinsey Sicks, will perform a benefit concert for the **Tom Ammiano** re-election campaign this Tuesday, October 13, at the New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van Ness Avenue. The hugely popular drag group has been praised by everyone from the *Chronicle* to *Billboard* magazine, and this is a good way to spend a fun evening and help Ammiano become the next board president – \$24; call Jeff Getty at (510) 653-6278 for info.

One of the finest celebrities I have ever met, actor **Roddy McDowall**, died Saturday at age 70 in his Los Angeles home. McDowall, a former child star who went on to stardom on Broadway and Hollywood, was a quiet, but effective, civil rights activist and union organizer (he served as treasurer of the Screen Actors Guild at the time of his death) and was one of Hollywood's most respected people. I met McDowall in 1960 when he was appearing on Broadway in *The Fighting Cock* with Rex Harrison; he lived at the exclusive Eldorado Towers on Central Park West and I was his neighbor in a cold-war flat around the corner.

An accomplished photographer, Roddy published many books of his photos, and knowing that I was an unashamed admirer of actress **Elizabeth Taylor** (years before she became the country's leading AIDS activist) McDowall gave me a one-of-a-

page 11 ►



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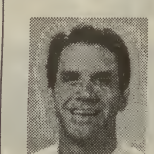
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Oprah and Dateline explore coming out

Cher and Cher alike, with Chastity

 by Sharon Shaw Johnson,
 GLAAD publications
 manager

Both *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and NBC's *Dateline* explored the coming out process recently, using profiles of lesbian activist and author Chastity Bono as a springboard for discussions on that topic. On September 28, Oprah featured a number of parents and their lesbian and gay children. Bono (GLAAD's former entertainment media director) was joined by her superstar mom Cher, a 1998 GLAAD Media Award-winner. Cher spoke of her initially negative reaction to Bono's sexual orientation and of the struggles she went through in learning to accept her daughter. Two other lesbians, who were joined by their families, relayed their own more recent experiences as well. On the September 29 edition of *Dateline*, Bono and Cher told *Dateline* co-host Jane Pauley about the impact of Bono's coming out upon their relationship, which is chronicled in Bono's new book, *Family Outing*. Also covered in the piece: Cher's negative reaction, Bono's tabloid "outing," and the estrangement she had from her father, U.S. Representative Sonny Bono, in the year leading up to his death in January.

Both programs brought wide-ranging audiences a greater understanding of a tough yet ultimately liberating experience: coming out to friends and family. Both shows made clear that the process can often be a painful one for families, but that the end result is often stronger, more loving relationships between child and parent.

Please thank both *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Dateline* for chronicling the process, the pain, and eventually the love and understanding, that accompanies many lesbian and gay coming out experiences.

Contact *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, PO Box 909715, Chicago, IL 60690, e-mail via WWW: <http://www.oprah.com>; and Sharon Scott, Supervising Producer, *Dateline*, 30 Rockefeller Plaza #408, New York, NY 10112-0002, fax: (212) 664-7864, e-mail: dateline@news.nbc.com.

Gay man advised: family bonds can cross borders

In Carolyn Hax's advice column, published in the September 27 *Washington Post*, a New York reader tells her he's a gay man from a developing country in South Asia. His parents, who still live there, don't know he's gay and are pressuring him to marry. "My American friends have mostly come out to their parents and advise me to do the same," the man writes. "But, until quite recently, homosexuality was an unmentionable subject in my country."

Stating that the issue has kept him from seeing his parents for four years, he writes, "Sometimes I feel my parents will be able to take it. But then I think, what if the news kills them? How will I ever be able to face them after voicing such deeply taboo subjects?" Hax replies, "Funny thing to be worried about, since you've spent four years not facing them after voicing nothing at all."

She continues, "They want a straight married son, and you ain't it. But you know what? The thing that will disappoint them has already happened, and nothing you do will change it. It's over, done with, out of your hands. You're gay. It's liberating, knowing what you can and can't change. Something you can — and need to change before obsessive indecision makes you outright squirrely — is your orientation toward your parents... The arc I've seen with conservative parents is shock and rejection that give way, eventually, to acceptance. But that's here. There, in a less receptive culture, you might get disowned. Or embraced — your love for your parents is a sure sign they're good to you. They'll take it as Fate, or God, or New York. But you're the only one who knows them well enough to decide. Regardless of your choice, confess or conceal in person. Just go, visit them, be their son."

She focuses on another key concern, as well — that the issue has kept the man separate from his parents for four years now — and properly advises him to visit them whatever his decision may be.

Please thank Hax and the *Washington Post* for providing this understanding, compassionate and clear-sighted examination of one of the tougher issues facing almost all lesbians or gay men.

Contact Robert G. Kaiser,

 Managing Editor, and Carolyn Hax, *Washington Post*, 1150 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20071-0002, e-mail via WWW: <http://www.washingtonpost.com>.

Post judges 'DADT' ruling unsound

A September 26 *Washington Post* editorial on the U.S. Court of Appeals ruling upholding the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) policy explained that the unanimous three-judge panel found the government's justification for the ban to be "sufficiently rational to make the policy, though clearly discriminatory, acceptable...." That justification: it "promotes unit cohesion, enhances privacy, and reduces sexual tension."

On behalf of the court, Judge John Walker, Jr., wrote, "[W]e cannot say that the reliance by Congress on the professional judgment and testimony of military experts and personnel that those who engage in homosexual acts would compromise the effectiveness of the military was irrational." The *Post* editorialized: "We can. Perhaps not by legal standards, but then again, a law's being constitutional and its being reasonable policy are two entirely different things. And if 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' manages to clear the first hurdle, it still badly fails to clear the second. It preserves a kind of outlaw status for gays who wish to serve their country on the basis of nothing more than a suspicion that their presence might make others uncomfortable."

The *Washington Post* editorial dissects the appellate court ruling to expose the specious reasoning that flaws the decision. The newspaper castigates the federal appellate court's avoidance of the core issues in which opposition to the morally bankrupt DADT policy are anchored: fairness, reasonableness and individuals' right to equal treatment under the law.

Please thank the *Washington Post* for exposing the appellate court's ruling to the unforgiving light of logic.

Contact Meg Greenfield, Editor, Editorial Page, *Washington Post*, 1150 15th Street NW, Washington, DC 20071-0002, e-mail via WWW: <http://www.washingtonpost.com>.

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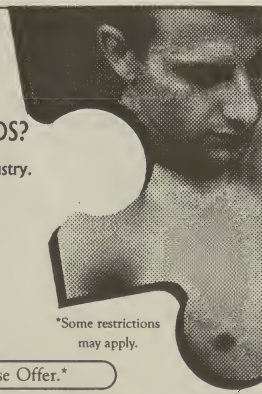
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HISTORY LESSON

The Maurice dance

by David Bianco

This week in gay history: E.M. Forster's only gay-themed novel, *Maurice*, is finally published October 4, 1971, almost 60 years after it was written.

British writer E.M. Forster's (1879-1970) elegant Edwardian novels, *A Room with a View*, *Howard's End*, and *A Passage to India*, later became opulent, acclaimed period movies. But his one novel of specific interest to gay readers remained unpublished in his lifetime. Fearing prosecution for obscenity, Forster decided against releasing *Maurice*, saying that the novel could not be made public "until my death or England's." The year after Forster's death, *Maurice* was finally published and is now a classic of gay literature.

To make sense of why Forster opted not to publish *Maurice*, it's necessary to understand the time in which he lived. Forster was an impressionable teenager when playwright Oscar Wilde was tried for "acts of gross indecency" in 1895. The ordeal of Wilde, who was left sick and impoverished, had a lasting impact on young gay men of that age. His name was virtually synonymous with homosexuality for many years after his death. In *Maurice*, the protagonist sees a doctor for his "condition" and confesses, "I am an unspeakable of the Oscar Wilde sort." Gay sexual relations remained outlawed in England until 1967. As Forster wrote bitterly in his diary late in life, "Society ... wast[ed] my time by making homosexuality criminal."

Forster realized he was gay as a student at Cambridge, where he enjoyed physical closeness, but not sex, with a fellow undergraduate. The object of his affection was known by his initials, "HOM" — Hugh O. Meredith, who went on to become a well-known economic historian. HOM suggested that he and Forster share rooms, but Forster's mother, who was the overriding influence on him dur-

ing most of his life, vetoed it. "[HOM] has always been considered a one man friend," she wrote, hinting at what she was afraid to admit openly. Forster declined HOM's invitation, but the two remained friends. In 1908, Forster dedicated his third novel, *A Room with a View*, to HOM.

Forster's passionate friendship with HOM probably provided inspiration for *Maurice*, but it was a visit to the home of gay writer Edward Carpenter and his working-class lover, George Merrill, that actually spurred the writing of the novel. On that visit in 1913, Merrill lightly touched Forster's bottom. "I believe he touched most people's," Forster noted 50 years later. "It was as much psychological as physical.... I still remember it." Forster was over 30 and had not yet had sex, so Merrill's affectionate tap on the behind made a lasting impression.

Inspired by Carpenter and Merrill's relationship, and probably envious of it, too, Forster began writing *Maurice* that same year. The novel is the story of Maurice Hall, a middle-class youth who attends Cambridge and there has a passionate friendship with Clive Durham. Clive knows he is gay but struggles to be "normal." When Clive marries, Maurice at first contemplates suicide, then tries to follow in his friend's footsteps by finding "a woman ... to diminish his lust." But on a visit to Clive's country estate, he meets and begins a sexual relationship with Alec, a gamekeeper. When Alec climbs into Maurice's bed, Maurice "cut[s] himself off from the congregation of normal men." Like Carpenter and Merrill, Maurice and Alec bridge the gap of class difference. Maurice leaves behind family and friends and goes off into the woods to live with Alec. Though the threat of being betrayed to the police always looms over them, Forster did allow his lovers a happy ending.

Forster revised *Maurice* three

times, with an eye to posthumous publication, and asked other writers to read and comment on the manuscript. Some gay critics now believe that D.H. Lawrence patterned the lusty *Lady Chatterley's Lover* (1928) after Forster's book. When *Maurice* was published in 1971, reviewers dismissed it as derivative of Lawrence, when in fact *Lady Chatterley's Lover* was probably a heterosexualized *Maurice*.

It wasn't until 1917, several years after the completion of *Maurice*, that Forster's gay identity, writing, and behavior finally came together. While traveling in Egypt, he fell in love with a young tram conductor named Mohammed el Adl, and the two enjoyed a passionate affair. "I am so happy," Forster wrote in his diary. "I wish I were writing the latter half of *Maurice* now. I now know so much more." The affair was brief, with Forster worrying constantly that his mother would find out.

The most enduring gay relationship of Forster's life began in the early 1930s, with a young police officer named Bob Buckingham. Though Buckingham eventually married, the marriage did not hamper his relationship with Forster. In fact, the constable's wife May seemed to accept the relationship, and Forster was a frequent visitor to their home in Coventry.

Forster and Buckingham were together almost 40 years, until Forster died of a stroke in 1970 at the Buckinghams' home. In an end-note to *Maurice* that Forster wrote in 1960, he said, "I was determined that in fiction anyway two men should fall in love and remain in it for the ever and ever that fiction allows." With Buckingham, Forster had finally found the love that he only imagined when he wrote *Maurice*. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of *Modern Jewish History for Everyone*. He can be reached care of this publication or at AriBianco@aol.com For more Past Out, visit www.gay.net.

For further reading:

Furbank, P.N. E.M. Forster: *A Life* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978).
Martin, Robert K. and George Piggford, eds. *Queer Forster* (University of Chicago Press, 1997).
Summers, Claude J. E.M. Forster (Ungar, 1983).

Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

kind color photo he took of Taylor and her daughter Liza Todd, the daughter of the late Mike Todd, and it is still one of the prized photos among many that grace the walls of my home. McDowall, who never married, had many friends in our community, but his own life never became fodder for the tabloids and he kept his personal life, for the most part, private. Whenever Roddy's private life came into

question, he would usually reply, "I'm a great believer in the private existence of public figures."

A self-made star and millionaire, McDowall was a professional in the way few other Hollywood survivors are. Although not close friends, McDowall and I kept in touch over the years, especially after he moved to California in the early 1980s and I will remember him as one of the finest, most decent public people I have ever known. The entertainment industry has truly lost one of its finest in the passing Saturday of Roddy McDowall. ▼

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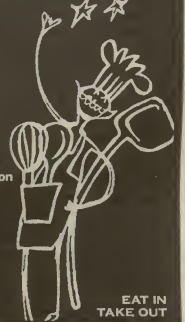
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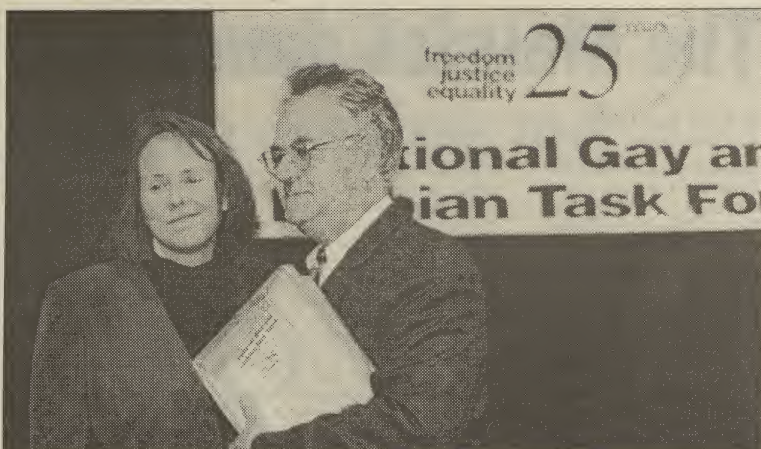
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NGLTF's Kerry Lobel (left) presented Rep. Barney Frank with a lifetime achievement award on October 5.

NGLTF honors Barney, Cecil, other allies

by Bob Roehr

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) held its ninth annual "Honoring Our Allies" reception in Washington D.C. on Monday, October 5. The honorees included Democratic Representatives Eleanor Holmes Norton of the District of Columbia and John Lewis of Georgia; Reverend Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco; and Univision Network talk show host Cristina Saralegui. A lifetime achievement award went to Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts).

Kerry Lobel, executive director of NGLTF, noted that this was the 25th anniversary year of the organization. She recounted how they work at the grassroots supporting state and local organizations with research from the policy institute and networking support for community centers and the planned marches next year in all 50 states.

Norton and Lewis, both veterans of the civil rights movement and members of the Congressional Black Caucus, offered thunderous support for gay and lesbian rights. "The struggle of gay men, and lesbians, and transsexual, and all of the other things you call yourselves, continues to make the point that civil rights and human rights are indivisible," said Norton.

"If you came up to me and said, 'Eleanor, how would you like to be white instead of black?' I would tell you what to do with yourself. What this Congress, what the homophobes of the world have tried to intimate, is that the most basic part of a human being's person should be subject to change. It is the most outrageous insult of all."

Lewis mesmerized the audience with his delivery. "I have worked too hard and too long against discrimination based on race and on color not to stand up against discrimination based on sexual orientation," he said. "Your struggle is our struggle. Our forefathers came over on different ships, but we are all in the same boat now. And we must continue the struggle and fight together."

"In this election year we have got to get out there and vote like we have never voted before," he urged. "We have to send a message that there cannot be any discrimination based on sexual orientation."

Here's Barney

"Where would our movement be without Congressman Barney Frank?" asked Lobel in making her introduction. "We wouldn't have someone who has spoken day, after day, after day, eloquently on our behalf. We may have had other out representatives in the halls of Congress, but none so out, so bad, so vicious as Barney

Frank." And the crowd whooped with agreement. She continued, "He is also the smartest, and most articulate, and ardent advocate for our community in the House of Representatives."

"I've had a bit of a busy day," Frank said. The audience chuckled, knowing he had come directly from Judiciary Committee impeachment hearings. He reminded them of Karl Marx's observation; "History repeats itself, the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce."

He said that his role in this process, as the second ranking Democrat and a leading defender of the President, "is in an odd way the confirmation of the progress that we [gays] have made. ... To be commenting live on the [television] networks about oral sex, seemed to me not what an openly gay man would have been invited to do 15 years ago."

"We who are out and involved are helping our fellow citizens to ... get beyond their homophobia," Frank said. He believes that in the next Democratic primary, gays and lesbians will play a role "equal to the role played by other major constituent groups."

"We have gone a long way toward defeating homophobia in the culture. And the way you can tell that is to look at the arguments the bigots use. Twenty-five years ago they were pretty up front about saying they didn't like dykes and fags ... now they almost never admit it." They say they want to stop "the promotion of homosexuality."

"If you gave me a couple of million bucks tomorrow and told me to 'promote homosexuality,' I don't know what I would do. How would you promote homosexuality? Would you write jingles? Have contests? I don't know how to do it," Frank confessed.

"The challenge that faces us," he said, is to "follow up on our cultural victory. We are winning the arguments but losing the elections." Protesting is "fun," but he urged that people do the hard work of registering voters and getting them out on Election Day. Politics is determined not by how people feel but how people vote.

Frank thanked the task force for the award in fighting for gay and lesbian rights. He compared it "to giving a dog a reward for eating a bone: it is what I want to do anyway." ▼

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by Cynthia Laird

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Dom. violence

◀ page 1

jump in reported cases, from 253 in 1996 to 903 in 1997, for an increase of 252 percent.

Shattered myths

"This report is beginning to uncover violence in our midst. Domestic violence does not discriminate," Merrill said.

Another common misconception — that domestic violence does not occur in lesbian relationships — was shattered in this year's report. The number of reports by men (52 percent) and women (48 percent) were essentially the same. The report pointed out that the various member organizations that reported figures serve a population of only 47 million, or less than 20 percent of the nation's population. And, Merrill said that academic prevalence studies suggest that between 25 percent and 33 percent of all LGBT relationships involve abuse, the same rate of prevalence found in heterosexual relationships.

The fact that reporting was up 41 percent last year indicates that awareness and willingness to seek help may be improving among LGBT battering victims, Merrill said.

And, while services for victims of LGBT domestic violence are better in cities like San Francisco than in other parts of the country, Merrill was quick to point out that, "even in San Francisco, LGBT persons do not have the same access," to services as heterosexual domestic violence victims.

San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan said the report is encouraging. "Last year we decided a priority would be to same-sex domestic violence," said Hallinan, adding the department added three prosecutors to its domestic violence unit and has a same-sex advocate in its family violence unit.

Lieutenant Sandra Tong, with

the police department's domestic violence unit, said the department has implemented sensitivity training for officers regarding transgender issues. While some kinks had to be worked out in the training materials, Tong said the program has been effective, even if some of the officers are not thrilled at the prospect of getting the training. "We had a lot of good questions and some negative feedback, but we're going to continue to do this," said Tong.

Get a protective order

One of the things mentioned by virtually everyone speaking at the news conference was that LGBT victims of domestic violence should get protective orders, also called restraining orders, no-contact orders, stay-away orders, and temporary restraining orders (TRO). While those protections are not available to victims of same-sex domestic violence in seven states, and arguably unavailable in three other states, California has what's called neutrally available statutes regarding domestic violence, as do 35 other states and the District of Columbia. Four states have laws that make such protective orders affirmatively available for victims of same-sex abuse.

"In about two-thirds of the states ... a victim of same-sex abuse should be able to obtain an order of protection because the laws in these jurisdictions are written in gender-neutral language," the NCAVP report stated. "In any of these states, the availability of a protective order for an individual victim of same-sex abuse will depend on a variety of factors particular to the state and to the victim. Some states may protect roommates; others do not."

Emberly Cross, coordinating attorney for the Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic in San Francisco, said her organization has done extensive outreach to the lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women's communities in an effort to let women in same-

sex relationships know that services are available.

Cross said that the Junior League of San Francisco helped the clinic conduct a survey that revealed restraining orders and TROs are effective. "Sixty-one percent said the violence stopped and 18 percent said the violence decreased," said Cross. "In most cases, restraining orders work."

Merrill added that CUAV also provides help for LGBT victims to get protective orders.

Tong added that a protective order becomes important if the police are called to a domestic violence disturbance; they can more accurately determine who is the victim if the person has a TRO or other court order against the person accused of being the aggressor.

An example of the help a protective order can provide was offered by Felisha, a same-sex domestic violence survivor. She briefly related her situation and emphasized the importance of getting a court order. "You can get over it with help," said Felisha, whose situation sounded like that of many other same-sex relationships that turn violent. Her female partner became increasingly controlling and jealous, culminating in a violent situation. ▼

CUAV's 24-hour crisis line is (415) 333-HELP; WOMAN, Inc. has a 24-hour crisis line, (415) 864-4722.

Supe candidates to debate Wednesday

by Cynthia Laird

The 17 candidates for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors will square off in a debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters this Wednesday, October 14 at the Southeast Community Center in the Bayview District.

On November 3, five seats on the board will be determined, with the person getting the most votes becoming board president. The two elected incumbents, Supervisors Tom Ammann and Mabel Teng, along with the three incumbents appointed by Mayor Willie Brown, Supervisors Mark Leno, Gavin Newsom, and Amos Brown are all running. They are being challenged by 12 candidates: Lucrecia Bermudez, immigrant rights organizer; Donna Casey, nonprofit business consultant; Denise D'Anne, resource conservation manager; Frederick Hobson; Sam Lucas; Victor Marquez, civil rights lawyer; Shawn O'Hearn, HIV prevention educator; Carlos Petroni, newspaper editor; Len Pettigrew, teacher; Jim Reid, entrepreneur and computer consultant; Tahnee Stair, temporary office worker; and Rose Tsai, radio host.

A league spokeswoman said all 17 candidates have been invited to the debate, which is free and open to the public. ▼

The community facility is located at Oakdale and Phelps streets. The debate starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the League of Women Voters at (415) 989-8683.

Recommendations

The NCAVP report calls for several actions. Among them:

- Widespread development of services designed to assist LGBT persons affected by domestic violence;
- Increased government and private funding devoted to service development;
- Aggressive community education to raise awareness of this issue;
- Lobbying efforts to amend state statutes so as to increase their inclusiveness or constitutional challenges to statutes which exclude;
- Training judicial and criminal justice personnel to apply and interpret laws fairly.



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CUAV to honor volunteers at benefit

by Cynthia Laird

Dedicated volunteers at Community United Against Violence (CUAV) will be among those honored at a benefit event this Tuesday, October 13 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown San Francisco. The event will commemorate the agency's 19th anniversary, said Executive Director Lester Olmstead-Rose.

"The theme is volunteers," Olmstead-Rose told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "People think of us as this big, huge organization, and we're not. It's the people from the community who work to keep the doors open."

Those being honored are all CUAV volunteers, except the San Francisco Women Against Rape organization. Olmstead-Rose said that agency is being honored for its commitment to serving lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women as well as the women's community in general.

"Very early on, they were dedicated to serving lesbian, bisexual, and transgender women," said Olmstead-Rose. "And they are committed to serving the whole diverse community in San Francisco, including women of color."

Former CUAV board member and open lesbian Jody Cole will be honored; she has contributed her time and money to the organization. Cole joined the board in 1994 and completed a three-year stint as board chair earlier this year. Cole is now on the board of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Project (CCP) and is co-chair of that project's \$3.5 million capital campaign.

Other dedicated volunteers who will be honored are CUAV crisis line workers Kent Brintnall, Rachel Endicott, and Eddie Kaufmann, and speakers bureau workers Richard Carrazza and Marc Scruggs.

CUAV, formed in 1979, was the first organization in the country to address violence against LGBT people. The agency operates a speakers bureau that makes numerous presentations to a variety of groups throughout the year. The 24-hour crisis line, staffed by trained volunteers, is a resource for same-sex victims of domestic violence. CUAV also lends its support to people in court proceedings and has worked closely with San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan in suspected anti-gay hate crimes.

The past year has been a busy one for CUAV and the organization has also seen its share of controversy, mostly stemming from the March murder of San Francisco resident Brian Wilmes and the lack of self-defense classes targeted at the LGBT community. In March, Olmstead-Rose acknowledged that CUAV has done "way too little," in terms of having a widespread whistle campaign in place. While a whistle probably wouldn't have saved Wilmes's life — he was allegedly struck in the mouth by suspect Edgar Mora and then hit his head on the pavement — a small number of activists were vocal in their belief that the only agency in the city that works to combat same-sex and anti-gay violence should spend more than \$2,000 a year to get a widely used whistle campaign in place.



Jody Cole

A breakdown of the \$317,355 that CUAV spent on assorted violence prevention services for the

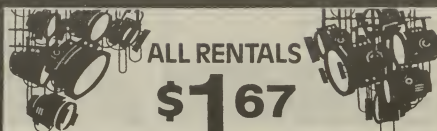
1995-96 fiscal year showed that \$256,000 went to a youth job training program, of which \$150,000 was contracted to other agencies as part of the grant. The remaining \$60,000 or so was largely spent on CUAV's speakers bureau, which Olmstead-Rose said is most effective when it comes to changing people's minds about anti-gay violence. About \$2,000 was spent specifically on whistle campaigns, according to the federal tax returns for 1995-96.

Tickets for the upcoming benefit start at \$50 per person, although no one will be turned away for lack of funds. ▼

The event is at the Hyatt Regency, 5 Embarcadero Center, from 6 to 8 p.m. For information on CUAV's services, call (415) 777-5500; the 24-hour crisis line is (415) 333-HELP (4357).

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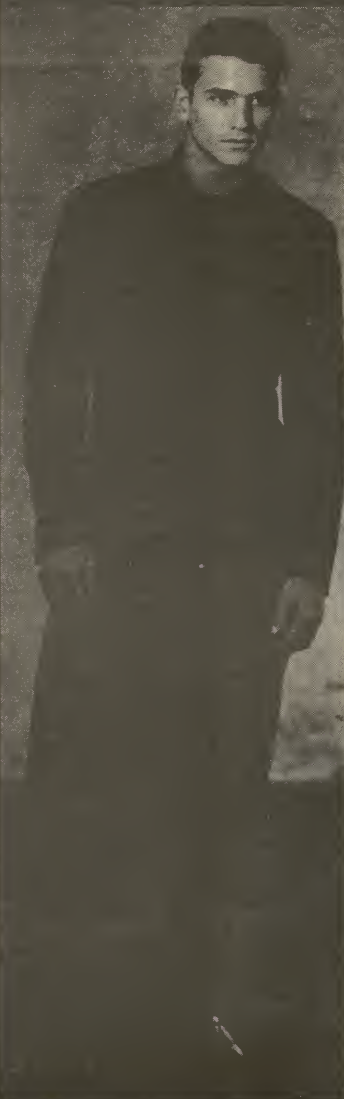
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Six of the eight 1998 NEFIR Fellowship recipients (L to R): Kyle Kickhafer, Bolt Hall class of '99, interned with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC); Jennifer Coddington and Rebecca Benhuri, both with the University of San Francisco (USF) '00, interned with SFNLAF; Michael Guina, USF '99, also interned with HRC; Laura Stratton, Golden Gate University '00, interned with the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network; Allen Drexel, Stanford '00, interned with the ACLU; and Kelly Dermody, chair of NEFIR's board of directors.

NEFIR hails fellows

by Timothy Rodrigues

The National Educational Foundation for Individual Rights (NEFIR) presented the 1998 law student fellowship recipients at a September 26 reception hosted by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF).

NEFIR, formed in 1979 by a number of gay legal rights organizations across the country, works to advance the legal rights of lesbians and gay men through law and education and financial support for public interest organizations and community education projects; it is now known as BALIF's sister organization.

The fellowship program, initiated in 1984 in cooperation with BALIF, funds internship opportunities for law students wishing to gain experience in the areas of sexual orientation law, individual rights litigation, direct legal services to people with HIV/AIDS, and other legal issues of concern to the lesbian, gay, and bisexual community, according to NEFIR literature.

"It is really sad because a lot of people who go to law school with a passion to change the world have that bled out of them in law school," said Kelly Dermody, a partner with

the law firm of Lief, Cabraser, Heimann, and Bernstein and chair of NEFIR's board of directors.

"It is common for [law] students to become disconnected from community work," continued Dermody, adding that NEFIR is working to build "the next generation of advocates."

The summer internships are a chance for students to learn an area of civil rights law that NEFIR believes is not taught to future lawyers.

In addition, the program seeks to fund projects at agencies that are doing civil rights work important to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community and those living with HIV/AIDS.

"We don't have a political stance, but we fund well-developed projects by students who have a background working on these projects," said Dermody. "We are funding projects that no one else is funding."

The fellowship program includes: the Roberta Achtenberg Fellowship, supporting work in the public sector, public policy or public service; the Mary Morgan Fellowship, supporting legal work on issues of concern to women and lesbians in particular; the Steven Block Fellowship, for work in the area of civil rights and education; and the Steven Richter Fellowship, supporting work in the area of HIV/AIDS.

The first three fellowships are available to San Francisco law students working anywhere in the country or students from outside of the Bay Area who will spend their summer working at non-profit legal organizations here; the Richter fellowship is available for projects anywhere in the United

States, and recipients do not have to be law students.

The eight 1998 fellowship program interns worked at a variety of diverse organizations indicative of the breadth of the program.

Rebecca Benhuri and Jennifer Coddington, both of the University of San Francisco law school class of 2000, received Mary Morgan Fellowships to work with the San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation (SFNLAF) to work on same-gender domestic violence issues.

Allen Drexel, with the Stanford Law School class of 2000, received a Steven Block Fellowship to work with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Lesbian and Gay Rights Project in New York.

"My ACLU internship gave me intensive hands-on experience working in a practice area to which I hope to return after graduation. In so doing, it reaffirmed the basis for my decision to attend law school," Drexel said in a written summary of his project.

The fellows do not make a great deal of money — the entire annual budget of NEFIR is \$13,000, an amount they hope to increase to \$30,000 this year — but seem to value the experience gained from their work.

NEFIR is currently accepting applications for its 1999 fellowship program; proposals must be submitted by March 1999 to BALIF/NEFIR Fellowship Program, P.O. Box 2602, San Francisco, CA, 94126-2602; call (415) 437-5711 for more info; to make a donation to the fellowship program, contact Kelly Dermody at the NEFIR number or send e-mail to kdermody@LCHB.com. ▼

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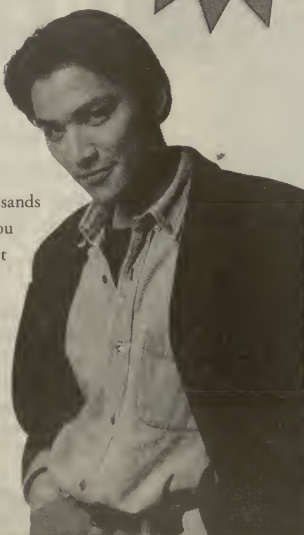
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Queer Tenants to meet Sat.

by Timothy Rodrigues

The Queer Tenants Union (QTU), a project of the San Francisco Tenants Union, will host a fundraising reception on Saturday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m., in support of Proposition G.

The proposition on the San Francisco ballot this November, the result of a signature gathering petition, would place restrictions on how landlords could evict tenants in order to move into a building.

QTU grew out of efforts in the last election to oppose Proposition E, a proposal that would have revised rent control laws in San Francisco.

The efforts of the group now focus on "providing affordable

housing as a way of sustaining a vibrant queer community," according to the group.

"We believe that the LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender] community must tackle economic justice issues. For too long we have focused solely on civil rights but not within the context of the economic consequences of oppression," said the QTU in a press release.

Featured guests include Karlin Lotney, also known as Fairy Butch, and Joan Jett Blakk. ▼

Suggested donation is \$10, although no one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information call Robert at the San Francisco Tenants Union, (415) 282-5525.

If you're HIV+, CRIXIVAN may help you live a longer, healthier life.



■ New NIH research showed people taking CRIXIVAN in triple therapy lived longer and experienced fewer opportunistic infections.

■ Recent year-long research conducted by the National Institutes of Health (Protocol ACTG 320) studied over 1,000 patients and confirmed results from another study.

■ The group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. This reduction was significant enough for the NIH to recommend the study be stopped, so that all participants could benefit from the findings. Because the study was ended early, there was insufficient data to determine the statistical impact of CRIXIVAN on survival.

■ CRIXIVAN in triple therapy continues to hold serum viral load down below the limit of detection at the one year mark.

■ In a separate, ongoing landmark study, over 90% of the 31 patients receiving CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their HIV serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks (as measured by available tests; the virus may still be present in other organ systems).

■ Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one year mark.

■ CRIXIVAN is generally well tolerated.

■ CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. There are side effects associated with protease inhibitors in general and CRIXIVAN in particular. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems. There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.

■ As with other protease inhibitors, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Please read the following page for detailed information on side effects and dosing.

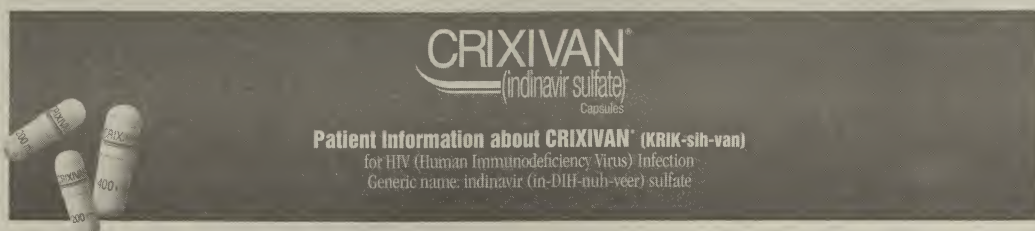
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Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, you should read the information included with CRIXIVAN each time you receive your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD 4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays." If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones.** Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN. Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine) HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam) HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPULSID® (cisapride) Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

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DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole) ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC) ZERTIT® (stavudine, d4T)

BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

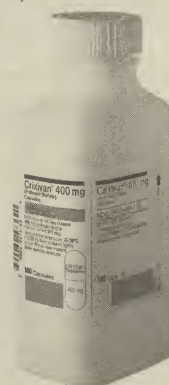
Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: abdominal swelling; inflammation of the kidneys; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; severe skin reactions; hair loss; crystals in the urine; and allergic reactions.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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Lesbian/gay journalists convene in Las Vegas

by Lois Pearlman

The national debate over President Clinton's sex life was the hot topic of conversation at a recent convention of some 550 journalists who know all too well how private sexual matters can affect a person's career.

Last weekend the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJA), an organization of over 1,400 gays and lesbians working in newspaper, radio and television around the country, held its seventh annual convention at the Alexis Park Resort in Las Vegas.

Thursday evening, as the sun set on casinos rising like concrete and neon behemoths across the broad valley of "Sin City," CBS's 60 Minutes news reporter Lesley Stahl kicked off the four-day event with a defense of the media's role in the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky affair.

"I think it's our role in a democracy," she said. "I don't think we're in it to be loved. So I say put on your flack jacket and do your work and do it right."

The following day, during a fruit and sweet roll breakfast a speaker countered with the opposite point of view.

"I believe this represents the worst piece of news judgment in my lifetime," said openly gay news reporter and author Charles Kaiser, who has worked for such publications as the *New York Times* and *Newsweek* magazine, over a 27-year career.

"It seems to me," Kaiser continued, "lesbians and gays should be acutely aware of the use of the details of a person's private life to destroy them. *Le Monde* in Paris called it the new sexual McCarthyism."

Later that day, in a workshop

titled "What's Fit to Print?," participants debated how to handle stories that include details about people's private lives.

One of the scenarios, based on something that actually happened, involved an openly gay man who was appointed to a judgeship by then-Texas governor Ann Richards, presumably in recognition of gay support for Richards's candidacy. The question raised at the workshop was whether or not to acknowledge the gay angle in the newspaper—with the kicker that the appointee was not willing to go on the record as being gay.

Journalists participating in the workshop were split on whether or not to out the man because his appointment was directly connected to his involvement in the gay community, or to honor his wishes to keep his sexual orientation out of the story.

When the event actually occurred a few years ago, participants were told by a workshop leader, the newspaper in question took the middle road, running a story on an inside page that mentioned his involvement in gay organizations, but not saying he was gay. But even that half-way allusion to his gayness was enough to make him the only political appointee to lose in a confirmation vote that is usually just a rubber stamp of the governor's appointments.

This was only one of dozens of workshops and discussion groups the convention offered, everything from such nuts and bolts topics as how to use the Internet more effectively for investigative reporting, to a workshop for broadcasters titled, "Do I sound 'too gay' for radio?"

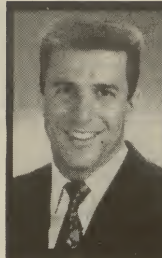
Chesley Springer, a freelance writer from Santa Rosa who was attending an NLGJA convention

for the first time, said the high point for her was a plenary on Internet privacy rights featuring Timothy McVeigh. A retired 18-year Navy veteran, McVeigh recently won a lawsuit charging the Navy with violating its own "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy by investigating his sexual orientation based on information it obtained from the Internet. (McVeigh, who is no relation to the Oklahoma City bomber, will also attend a fundraiser for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network on San Francisco's Treasure Island this Sunday, October 11.)

In addition to this lively discussion of privacy rights, Springer said she was most impressed by the "sheer numbers of gays, lesbians and transsexuals working in journalism, in academia related in journalism and in watch dog agencies."

First conceived in 1990 by a group of gay and lesbian journalists brainstorming around a Northern California dining table, NLGJA is an organization that "works within the news industry to foster fair and accurate coverage of lesbian and gay issues and opposes newsroom bias towards lesbians and gays and all other minorities."

The annual conventions are open to both members and non-members, with next year's convention slated for Atlanta. ▼



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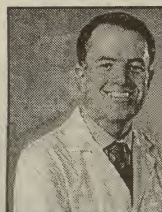


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BAY AREA REPORTER

Wilson signs historic transgender hate crime bill

by Cynthia Laird

The most significant law ever aimed at protecting transgender people was signed by California Governor Pete Wilson last Wednesday, September 30. Assembly Bill 1999, authored by openly lesbian Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) clarifies that hate crimes against transgendered people are covered under state hate crimes laws.

District attorneys in San Francisco and Los Angeles counties, who supported AB 1999, already prosecute such hate crimes under existing law, but other district attorneys do not use this interpretation of the statute. The new law creates uniformity of application of the broader reading of the law.

Transgender activists hailed Wilson's signing of the bill as a major victory.

"This is a milestone for the transgender community of California," said Vicky Kolakowski, co-chair of the Bay Area Transgender Law Association (BAT-LAW), a sponsoring organization of the bill. "Hate crimes are a major problem for transgender people everywhere, including the Bay Area, and I am very happy

that the Legislature and the governor understand the importance of enacting this legislation. I hope this becomes a model that will be used nationwide."

Kolakowski attributed the bill's passage to the work of a coalition of public safety advocates, hate crimes experts, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community organizations, but gave Kuehl and other gay and lesbian leaders the bulk of the credit for the changing attitudes.

"Most of that transformation was due to the leadership of Sheila Kuehl, her marvelous staff, and the support of gay and lesbian groups such as the now-defunct LIFE Lobby, Community United Against Violence out of San Francisco, and the Lambda Letters Project out of Sacramento," Kolakowski said.

AB 1999 received wide bipartisan support throughout the legislative process, partly due to the early endorsement of the bill by Attorney General Dan Lungren, the GOP candidate for governor. ▼

Full disclosure: Vicky Kolakowski is a freelance reporter for the Bay Area Reporter.

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Peptide T

◀ page 1

scores of at least 0.5, while overall deterioration was more common among the placebo group."

In other words, after scientists associated with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and related agencies had spent years deriding Peptide T and its creator, Dr. Candace Pert, and after NIMH led treatment activists and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to believe the drug had no demonstrable therapeutic benefits, its own study verified the treatment is safe and effective.

In fact, the NIMH study is just one of three that have been published recently, showing promising results for Peptide T as an HIV-related therapy.

"We should all be very suspect with PR about studies," warned Jeff Getty, a treatment activist with ACT UP/Golden Gate. "Someone is up to something when they issue a press release like that. It's spin. Let me see the data."

In late September, a long-awaited answer from government staff confirmed that NIMH misled the public by dismissing the effectiveness of Peptide T. Rayford Kyle of the NIMH press office, whose name appears as the contact on the 1995 press release, admitted that NIMH "almost never" issues such early PR about research.

"There was strong sentiment here that Peptide T was a waste of time," Kyle related, "and people living with HIV were being charged so much for it by the buyers' clubs." Kyle characterized the serious discrepancy between the press release and the research results by saying, "I don't think

there was anything that was standard procedure about Peptide T."

"None of what has happened here shocks me anymore," said Pert, a respected scientist whose earlier research helped prove the existence of opiate receptors in the brain.

Background

The NIMH press release was issued in October 1995, just in time for a meeting scheduled in Washington, D.C., between treatment activists, Pert and her associates, and Advanced Peptides and Biotechnology Sciences, Inc., one of the drug's licensed manufacturers. As activists developed closer ties with government scientists, they had been led to believe that Peptide T was useless, a conclusion facilitated by the NIMH press release. At the meeting, several activists were openly hostile to Pert and Advanced Peptides staff. In public comments in New York at the time, Mark Harrington of the Treatment Action Group referred to Peptide T as "snake oil."

A worse blow came at the end of August 1996. After a host of documented uses of Peptide T to treat AIDS patients with terminal Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy (PML), under an emergency Investigational New Drug protocol, the FDA advised Advanced Peptides that it could not progress to Phase II clinical trials, even though it is one of the very few drugs showing promise in PML treatment. The FDA ordered Advanced Peptides to go back to do preliminary safety trials of the drug in dogs.

Peptide T has been in use in humans and proved safe and effective for over a decade.

"The experience of people I know who used this drug, myself

included, was that it worked," said Getty. "It just became too expensive and too hard to get; and then NIMH said it didn't work, so we dropped it, because we thought we might be seeing the placebo effect. Now we see the data shows something's happening."

Benedetto Vitiello, one of the chief investigators on the NIMH study, tried to downplay the vast discrepancy between NIMH's story to the media and the published research, saying, "The scientific community wanted to have a response, even if we hadn't examined all of the conclusions."

Skewing around?

Well into the preparation of the Peptide T article, according to sources in NIMH, senior researchers attempted to change inclusion sets of patients for the final analyses, and to skew data to make the effectiveness of the drug appear weaker. Peter Haseltine, a principal researcher in the NIMH trial, is reported to have been flown several times to private, harranging meetings, often at night on little notice.

The results, according to those close to the research, could not be skewed enough to render NIMH's early press release accurate, even with a patient sample Pert had considered overly broad. The endpoint of the trial was the mean end-score change on a battery of 23 neuropsychological tests administered to participants, and the criteria for entry was scoring just 1.5 standard deviation below norm on two tests, or just 2.5 standard deviations below on one test. Only a third of the patients even had global neurocognitive impairment. A low dose, 2 mg. three times a day, intranasally, was used.

Even more odd, the researchers defined "immunological impairment" only on the basis of T-cell counts, although they note in the study that severe neurocognitive impairment is a result of more severe immunological dysfunction. In the NIMH study, the more impaired a patient was, the more Peptide T therapy proved beneficial for the neurocognitive impairment, although the researchers say they could only show this at T-cell counts over 200. Previous studies show effects at lower T-cell counts, using higher doses of the drug.

Vitiello denied that there was any intent to juggle data, or to establish endpoints pre-designed to fail. "You could do research now," he said, "but that would be up to the people who really wanted to read the paper."

A new study was proposed at the annual meeting of the Institute of Human Virology in late August, which would show Peptide T as one potentially effective block to CKR5 and Fusin, the co-receptors that enable cells to be invaded by HIV-1 and its byproducts.

Not receptive to receptors

The role of government researchers in the disinformation incident provides evidence for Pert's contentions in her recent book, *Molecules of Emotion*. She relates the story of approaching two prestigious colleagues at NIMH to help advance research on Peptide T; she says both threw her out of their offices, spitting epithets and screaming, "Virus receptors, virus receptors. No one I know of has ever heard of virus receptors."

In fact, in late 1985, when Dr. Robert Gallo at NIH claimed he had discovered the retrovirus now known as HIV-1 as the pathogen causing AIDS, Pert theorized that HIV-1's role could be complicated. She suggested HIV-1 could be the trigger that set off a multifactoral pathogenesis. Her theory was based on her research and discoveries of an intricate psycho-immuno-endocrine network marked by receptors and ligands throughout the body.

As early as 1985, Pert suggested that if the body's natural peptide ligand that fits the T-4 receptor could be found, it could yield simple, potentially non-toxic therapeutic agents to stop virus from entering cells. She also noted that an envelope protein of HIV-1, gp-120, was detachable, wreaking havoc on key cells throughout the psycho-immuno-endocrine system, possibly facilitating viral attack on otherwise untargeted cells.

Since the early 1980s, prominent University of California, San Francisco (USCF) immunologist Dr. Jay Levy's work on cytokines, and Dr. Luc Montagnier's basic research, have synergistically supported the "multifactoral pathogenesis" hypotheses. This interconnected, multifactoral pathogenesis plays out in cognitive, immune, endocrine, neural, and digestive and elimination systems. This recently prompted Levy to issue a strong warning about the potential dangers of using anti-retroviral chemotherapy too early after the onset of HIV-1 infection, over concern that it might hinder optimal immune response.

In 1986, however, prominent virologists promptly and publicly scoffed at Pert's suggestions and, by 1987, Pert chose to resign from NIMH. Government scientists, discrediting Pert's work, labored for another decade until NIH announced the discovery of CKR5 and Fusin, two co-receptors of HIV-1 and its byproducts, which are found on a host of different cells throughout the entire body. Not surprisingly, no reference to Pert could be

given by Gallo last year when he announced his labs' discovery of chemokines, the natural ligands that fit CKR5 and Fusin. Gallo's research, however, opens new avenues for Peptide T investigation.

A study just published in the September 10 issue of the journal *Nature*, announced the finding that gp-120 seeks out Fusin receptors and helps mutated HIV-1 induce cell clumping and death. This discovery has now raised grave concerns about experimental vaccines based on gp-120. Previous studies have demonstrated that gp-120 interferes with human growth hormone production, and lowers intracellular glutathione. Again, because of the political history, it was no surprise that the *Nature* article would not cite earlier work by Pert.

Analysts

NIMH violated the public trust, and hindered collaboration between key AIDS researchers who shared a common hypothesis. The result of NIMH's actions has been to bring Peptide T research in HIV to a near standstill until recently, and to sour the FDA on research options. Research delays have not been the only problems.

Availability of the drug in buyer's clubs has nearly vanished, and what little is available, from the PWA Health Group in New York, is unaffordable and intermittent, since there is no guaranteed source, patient assistance program or insurance coverage. Many who had depended on the drug as a treatment for neuropathy and to forestall the advancement of dementia have been left with no supplies.

There are internal staff reports of legally and professionally questionable activities by NIMH and FDA worse than mere professional jealousies, institutional sexism, profit interests, and an unwillingness to think outside of narrow disciplines.

"Research must be presented for public review with integrity," said Dr. John Newmeyer, epidemiologist for the Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, "NIMH actions here are a scandal."

In the era of highly active anti-retroviral treatment, flushing viral reservoirs and restoring immune competence are becoming increasingly important. Since the effectiveness of most chemotherapeutic antiretroviral drugs at crossing the blood-brain barrier is minimal, and since they bring their own toxic effects to the system, Peptide T could be an important additional weapon in the arsenal for reaching hard-to-reach sites.

Since the drug may also be a gp-120 antagonist, as noted in a recently published study in the *Journal of Investigative Dermatology*, it holds even broader potential applications, and may help to mitigate some other drug side effects. Previous studies also suggest Peptide T lowers production of Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF-a), which is too high in people with HIV, enhancing viral replication. Like research on Compound-Q and MAP-30, research on Peptide T was abandoned before its time had come.

Pert, now a researcher at Georgetown University School of Medicine, believes she should be as diplomatic as possible about the NIMH actions, and declined further comment on them. "We're looking to move forward with every reasonable HIV research opportunity," she said. Advanced Peptides, based in Stony Brook, New York, remains committed to developing the drug, and at press time had determined that a fight in the courts and in Congress might be in order. ▼



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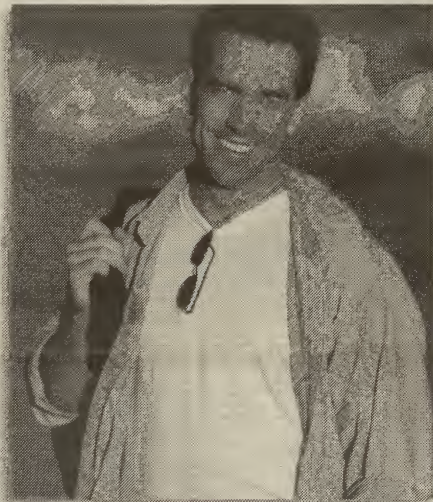
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If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anticatabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide

BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM's solution. ■

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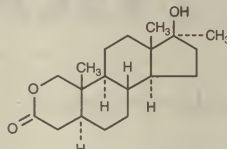
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CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Anabolic steroids are synthetic derivatives of testosterone. Certain clinical effects and adverse reactions demonstrate the androgenic properties of this class of drugs. Complete dissociation of anabolic and androgenic effects has not been achieved. The actions of anabolic steroids are therefore similar to those of male sex hormones with the possibility of causing serious disturbances of growth and sexual development if given to young children. Anabolic steroids suppress the gonadotropic functions of the pituitary and may exert a direct effect upon the testes. During exogenous administration of anabolic androgens, endogenous testosterone release is inhibited through inhibition of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). At large doses, spermatogenesis may be suppressed through feedback inhibition of pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH).

Anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins and decrease high-density lipoproteins. These levels revert to normal on discontinuation of treatment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxandrin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to promote weight gain after weight loss following extensive surgery, chronic infections, or severe trauma, and in some patients who without definite pathophysiologic reasons fail to gain or to maintain normal weight, to offset the protein catabolism associated with prolonged administration of corticosteroids, and for the relief of the bone pain frequently accompanying osteoporosis (See DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Oxandrolone is classified as a controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act of 1990 and has been assigned to Schedule III (non-narcotic).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. Known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast.
2. Carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption).
3. Pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose.
4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOUS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17-alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS

General:

Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:

The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.

Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.

All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:

Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See WARNINGS).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17-alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug Interactions

Anticoagulants:

Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:

Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:

In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:

Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T_4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T_3 and T_4 . Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility

Animal data:

Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:

Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See WARNINGS). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:

Teratogenic effects — Pregnancy Category X (See CONTRAINDICATIONS).

Nursing mothers:

It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:

Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See WARNINGS).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatis with long-term therapy (See WARNINGS). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulphthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In males:

Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.

Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In females:

Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of serum electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK).

Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD_{50} of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The usual adult dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤ 0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤ 0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

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Hepatitis C advocates to meet with drug company

by Timothy Rodrigues

Activists with the Hepatitis C Action and Advocacy Coalition (HAAC) will meet in San Francisco with executives of Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals next Thursday, October 15 to discuss ongoing concerns over the company's marketing of a new hepatitis C (HCV) treatment. The meeting is not open to the public or the media.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Rebetrol (ribavirin) on June 3 for the treatment of HCV in combination, or "bundled," with Intron A, Schering's interferon, another drug treatment option.

HAAC requested a meeting with Schering in an August 13 letter to Raul Cesan, the president of the New Jersey-based company, that raised concerns related to the bundling of the drug and the price.

Schering holds worldwide distribution rights for ribavirin, and activists complain that the bundling limits the option of patients who may wish choose an interferon other than the one produced by Schering.

Also, HAAC estimates that the price of ribavirin, if sold by itself,

Hep C community forums announced

The Hepatitis C Support Project will co-host two community forums in San Francisco during the month of October:

Issues related to management of the disease will be discussed Tuesday, October 20 at the California Pacific Medical Center, 2333 Buchanan Street, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacific Conference Room. Call (415) 423-3155 to RSVP for more information.

Research and issues related to HIV and HCV co-infection will be the topic Monday, October 26, 6:30 p.m., at 507 Divisadero Street (between Hayes and Fell streets).

For more information, call the Hepatitis C Support Group Hotline at (415) 676-4888. ▼

would be approximately \$1,000 per month; advocates are demanding a 75 percent reduction in the price.

"We feel they [Schering] are taking it seriously," said Brian Klein with HAAC, adding a caution: "We hope to see substantial movement."

A number of community and government representatives will attend the meeting in addition to members of HAAC including: Brenda Lein of Project Inform, Jeff Getty of ACT UP/Golden Gate, Alan Franciscus of the He-

patitis C Support Project, Fred Ross with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and representatives from Supervisors Gavin Newsom, Mark Leno, and Leslie Katz.

The meeting site is being provided by the Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center. ▼

HAAC meets every other Wednesday (the next meeting is October 14) at the ACT UP/Golden Gate headquarters, 592 Castro Street; the group can be contacted via mail at 530 Divisadero Street, #162, San Francisco CA, 94117, or e-mail at haac_sf@hotmail.com.

Depression Screening Day today

by Bob Roehr

Have your job? Your lover? Or the lack thereof? Maybe things aren't going too well with the family? Whether or not your life sucks, clinical depression can make it seem that way.

The National Depression Screening Day can help you get a handle on this underlying medical problem that may be making you blue. On Thursday, October 8, (today) more than 100,000 people will take a simple 10-question screening test, meet with a mental health professional, and where necessary, be referred for further evaluation.

"Gays and lesbians probably do have somewhat higher rates of depression," says Dr. Jeffrey S. Akman, past president of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association. He attributes it to the pressures of "coming out and internalized homophobia." Often it depends on where you are in terms of self-acceptance of being gay.

"I didn't realize that my quick temper was a result of depression," said Jerry Ersland. "Treatment turned my life around." Other general traits of depression may be a sense of hopelessness, sadness, anxiety, or no longer enjoying usual activities.

Physical symptoms include headaches, stomach problems, difficulty sleeping or sleeping all of the time, and changes in eating



Dr. Robert Cabaj

or weight. Depression seems to hit one in 10 men and one in five women, but nearly half never receive treatment.

"A lot of times people aren't even aware of the levels of the symptoms they go through," says Robert Cabaj, a psychotherapist in San Mateo. The stress of work or dealing with an intolerant society "can be a real disguise for chronic depression."

Today's screening program is free at over 3,000 sites across the nation. To find one near you, call (800) 573-4433, or check out their website at www.nmisp.org. ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER

To treat or not to treat

by Don Howard, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

Two weeks ago, the B.A.R. printed a front page article about University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) researcher Dr. Jay Levy's concerns that people with HIV are starting treatment too early. In his *Lancet* article, Levy, a respected, but contrarian, scientist, questioned whether early treatment of HIV was doing more harm than good.

Levy is not alone in questioning when to start HIV treatment. People with HIV have been asking themselves the same tough question since treatments first became available more than two years ago.

More questions than answers

Those who have chosen early treatment ask: Did I start HIV treatment too early? Will I become resistant to all the anti-HIV drugs before I even need them? Will I diminish my immune response to HIV by taking drugs? Will the drugs destroy my internal organs and my looks?

Those who have waited to jump on the drug bandwagon wonder: Have I waited too long to get my HIV under control? Will it be harder to reach "undetectable" the longer I wait? Is HIV further damaging my immune system each day I wait to start treatment?

Everyone with HIV is asking: can't anyone tell us the best time to start treatment?

Unfortunately, no. And, it's not clear that there is one best time to start treatment for all patients. Levy raises important questions but provides more speculation than real answers. His commentary contained no new hard data for people making complex treatment decisions. Without real data from scientists like Levy, you and your physician have to develop your own personal treatment strategy based on both the stage of your HIV infection and your long-term treatment goals.

Stage of Infection

In a very simplified model, HIV infection can be divided into three stages: acute infection, asymptomatic infection, and symptomatic infection.

Acute infection is considered to be the first six to 12 months after exposure to HIV. Many scientists believe that it may be easier to suppress the virus with treatment during the first months of infection. The UCSF study of treatment of acute HIV infection (Options Project - [415]502-8100) has seen nearly 100 percent of their patients achieve undetectable viral loads within 12 weeks of starting treatment.

Other scientists have been testing theories that very early treatment may preserve some key immune system functions (e.g. HIV-specific CD4 responses) which have been seen in many long-term non-progressors. Overall, many scientists would agree that treatment during this window has a scientific rationale.

Asymptomatic infection is the period after initial infection but before symptoms (such as increasing viral load, lower CD4 levels, and opportunistic infections) occur. This is the period where many scientists disagree on the wisdom of beginning treatment. Scientists who favor treatment believe that HIV causes a steady destruction of the immune system, and waiting to control the virus will only result in a weaker immune system. Others who do not favor treatment believe that it may be wise to wait until the immune system begins to fail or until we have better drugs and better data about the best way to treat HIV. In his recent *Lancet* commentary, Levy voices his concern that treatment during this window may exhaust treatment options while diminishing the immune system's natural response to HIV.

Symptomatic infection is when CD4 levels fall (some use an arbitrary cutoff of 400 or 500 CD4s), viral load rises (again arbitrary cutoffs of 10,000 to 30,000 have been used) or opportunistic infections occur. When the virus can be

controlled in this stage with anti-HIV treatments, studies have shown increases in CD4 levels, fewer infections and a lower risk of death. Most scientists agree that it makes sense to use drugs during this later stage of HIV infection.

Treatment goals

Commentaries like Levy's fail to mention that patients also need to consider their long-term treatment goals in their decision to begin treatment. Is the goal to suppress the virus as long as possible, to minimize toxicity from treatments, to set yourself up to stop treatment someday or something else?

Long-term viral suppression is the implicit goal of most treatment strategies. In fact, studies have shown that those with lower viral loads survive longer. Studies also show that the best predictor of long-term viral suppression is achieving undetectable levels.

However, if long-term suppression of the virus is the goal, then it isn't clear whether early treatment is the best choice. On the one hand, many people

believe that early treatment has a better chance of bringing the virus to undetectable levels. But, studies have shown that low-level replication of the virus probably continues even when it is undetectable in standard tests. With continued replication, there is a risk that early treatment will result in early resistance to the drugs and fewer long-term treatment options.

This being said, there are many people who have remained undetectable on a single combination for more than two years. The purists even argue that if you only get one shot the best strategy for maintaining viral suppression is to start treatment early and to use more than the conventional three drug combination.

A different strategy, such as minimizing toxicity from treatment, may argue for later treatment. Emerging side effects, such as body shape changes and the potential for heart disease from elevated lipid levels, are compelling arguments to wait as long as possible to start taking drugs. Those who disagree with this argument point out that side effects are worse when the body and the immune system have already been damaged by living with HIV for a long time.

Stopping therapy is, perhaps, the most controversial strategy. After the International AIDS Conference in Vancouver two years ago, premature theories about HIV eradication led many to believe that treatment might be stopped after several years if all the infected viral compartments burned out. Since Vancouver, eradication theories have been largely dismissed because very long-lived viral reservoirs have been discovered.

However, new theories discussed during this year's Geneva AIDS conference propose that, through early treatment and/or vaccination, the immune system may be able to control the virus without the assistance of antiviral drugs. There are a handful of cases where this appears to have been achieved. This argues for early treatment and possible therapeutic vaccinations to put yourself in the position of stopping therapy if these theories prove to be true.

next page ►

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Sgt. Paul R. Click
1958 — 1998

Paul passed peacefully and comfortably from life at his home on October 2, 1998, with his mom, Patricia, and his friends, Van and Peter, at his side.

Paul was born in Tennessee, raised in Sioux City, Iowa, and moved to San Francisco in 1982. He became a sheriff's deputy in 1985 and rose to the rank of Sergeant in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department. He was preceded in death by John, David, and his beloved grandmother, Edna.

Paul helped found the Golden State Police Officer's Association and was its first president. He was a member of CHC, Chicago, Delta International, GSPOA, and he was one of the "15" San Francisco.

Paul worked hard for the community, and he will be missed by his many friends. Instead of flowers, please donate to the AIDS Emergency Fund or Project Open Hand in his name.

The memorial service is Saturday, October 10, at 11 a.m., Grace Cathedral, Chapel of Grace. Celebration of life follows at 1 p.m., Saturday, at the Eagle Tavern, 398 12th St.

Paul's family includes his mother, Patricia, father, Dean, sisters Paula, DeAnn, and Robbie, nieces and nephews, and his special friends Van, Peter, Judith, and Wendy.

The family thanks all the Sheriff's Department personnel who gave the greatest gift of their accumulated time so that Paul could continue on active service with the SFSD.

Paul is now a beautiful soul.

Robert S. Costa

Sept. 15, 1951 — Sept. 27, 1998



Robert died at Stanford University Medical Center after a long illness. He lived in San Francisco with his partner, Marco Romero. He was born and raised in Riverdale, California, the son of Tony

and Mary Costa of Riverdale. While growing up in Riverdale, he was active in the 4-H Club. He graduated from Riverdale High School, attended Colinga Junior College, earned a Masters Degree in Linguistics from California State University at Fresno and an Administrative Masters and Credentials from California State University at San Jose. He was a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California at Berkeley. He received two Fulbright scholarships and studied in Portugal and Brazil.

Robert worked for the Redwood City School District and the East Palo Alto School District. He was a highly respected consultant and teacher trainer. He was dedicated to the promotion of education for language minority students. He was an avid reader and enjoyed trav-

eling and spending time with his friends, as well as watching tennis championships and ice-skating competitions.

Besides Robert's partner and parents, one brother, Danny Costa of Hanford, California, survives him.

A memorial service will be held on October 11, 1998, at 3 p.m., at Robert and Marco's home at 476 27th St. in San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Robert's name to Project Open Hand, P.O. Box 642910, San Francisco, CA 94164-2910.

Normand "Nick" Gardner
Feb. 16, 1938 — Sept. 8, 1998

Nick was born on February 16, 1938 in Vermont, and died suddenly of a massive heart attack on September 8, 1998.

Nick enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17 and served for four years. He moved to San Francisco in 1967 and was last employed at Hill Haven Convalescent Home, Inc. Camping in his motor home and being with friends were of special pleasure for him.

Jimmy Quinn and roommates John Garvin and Jay Holmes will dearly miss him, along with his many other friends here in the Bay Area. May he rest in peace.

A celebration of life will be held on October 10, 1998 from 2-6 p.m. at the Polk Rendezvous at 1303 Polk St., San Francisco.

Timothy John Isbell

Oct. 2, 1948 — Sept. 12, 1998



Tim lost his long and valiant struggle to AIDS on Saturday, September 12, 1998, at St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. Born in Abington, Pennsylvania, Tim moved to the L.A. area to

promote his musical career in the late 1960s. His introduction to the Bay Area was in the early 1970s when he enrolled at Mills College where he received his Master of Arts degree in 1973. Tim became involved with church music and held several positions as director. Those of note are Choral and Handbell Choir Director at Foothills Congregational Church in Los Altos, Assistant Director at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in San Mateo, Choral Director at Marin Academy in San Rafael, The Beverly Hills Chamber Singers in L.A., and Echo Park United Methodist Church, also in L.A. In addition to music writing, his talent as a music arranger was used by several stars in Hollywood, i.e. Johnny Mathis, Helen Reddy, Kenny Rogers, and clients such as Truman Capote, Mitzi Gaynor, and Goldie Hawn.

Tim's charm, dry wit, and beautiful music-making will be sorely missed. His Farewell Celebration will take place at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 3281 16th St. (at Dolores) in San Francisco on Friday, October 9, 1998, at 10 a.m.

Mike (Pappy) Schmitz

Aug. 26, 1942 — Sept. 22, 1998



Our dear friend Pappy Schmitz died on Tuesday, September 22, at Kaiser hospital, from complications of a long-term AIDS illness.

Like Dorothy of Oz, Pappy was born in Kansas. He graduated from Plainville Rural High School in 1960 and went into the United States Air Force. After being honorably discharged, Pappy traveled around the country working as a dancer, short-order cook, hotel manager, and hospital lab assistant before returning to his chosen field of journalism. He worked on several Midwest newspapers and wire

services before moving to San Francisco around 1975, where he became the managing editor of "Kalendar Magazine," a long-running entertainment publication. Later on, he worked as an appraisal dispatcher for Aetna Life and Casualty and finally as a senior word processor for Bank of America before being diagnosed with cancer and HIV in 1987.

For nearly four years, Pappy devoted his energies and various talents to a PWA social center (The Living Room) in the Castro Area, where his monthly fundraising garage sales became a looked-forward-to event. He also served as the Special Events Committee Chairman and a member of the organization's Board of Directors until its closure in 1992.

Known for his wild tall-tales and fantastic canasta playing, Pappy was even more famous for his knowledge of Hollywood and movie/Broadway trivia. He loved to travel and was able to visit most of Europe, the Caribbean, Mexico, and Hawaii, as well as make many side trips to Lake Tahoe and Reno, where he was a fanatic poker and blackjack player.

Pappy is survived by his parents, Max and Mabel Schmitz, and sisters Kaye, Denise, Betty, and Beverly, all of Kansas. His ashes will be spread at a special location (to Pappy) in the Valley of the Moon near Sonoma. Any donations or memorials can be made to Project Inform.

Richard Owen Morris
Nov. 9, 1937 — Oct. 5, 1998

Longtime San Francisco resident Richard Owen Morris died Monday, October 5, after a long battle with a respiratory illness.

Richard was an accomplished artist and inspiring teacher. He will be remembered by his many friends for his warmth, humor, sensitivity, and brilliance.

A memorial will be held on Saturday, October 11, 2 p.m., at Tredway and Wigger mortuary, 623 Coombs Street, in Napa.

"It seems not important that we believe in angels, but it's terribly important that they believe in us."

Richard, you made a difference.

Jay Peter Scorzza

Sept. 9, 1952 — Sept. 30, 1998



Jay was born in Cuba on September 9, 1952. However, he was raised in the United States. In College, Jay received a trophy award from Albany State Triple-A Baseball pitcher of the year 1979. Jay spent

most of his time in photography. He worked in New York as official photographer at NYI Photo World Magazine. He also worked as official photographer at AFTRA/SAG. Jay moved to Chicago, his favorite city, where he continued his photography work. In 1994, Jay moved to California and decided to live in San Francisco, his other favorite city. While having a good time in San Francisco, Jay unexpectedly got sick from pneumonia. He was hospitalized since September 10, 1998. Unfortunately, Jay died on September 30, 1998, at San Francisco General Hospital. His brother and friends strongly supported Jay in a spirit of love and faith. Jay passed away peacefully with God's blessings.

Robert "Seth" Ver Dier
Nov. 11, 1950 — Sept. 25, 1998

Robert "Seth" Ver Dier was born in Flint, Michigan on November 11, 1950, and moved to California in the early 1970s. Seth died on September 25, 1998.

At the time of his death, he was enjoying his retirement, often commenting on how he'd never worked so hard. Seth had previously managed a theatre, bar, and boutique where his artful talent was especially evident. Seth was a true artisan who worked in many mediums. His paintings are of particular mention.

Seth enjoyed life. He liked traveling, cooking, theater, and the arts. He was surrounded by many friends who enjoyed his zest for life and his mischievous laughter. His roommate, Bob, will miss his ability to fix anything and his skillful hand with a glue gun and fringe.

He is survived by five sisters and many friends. A celebration of life will be held October 11 from 1-4 p.m. at John and Robert's.

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In the absence of good scientific data, how do you decide when to start treatment? You educate yourself about your options. You speak with people you trust including your doctor, patient advocates and

your friends. And you make a decision that you can live with that considers both your stage of disease and your long term treatment goals. Until we have more data and less speculation, you have to make the ultimate decision and live with the consequences.

Note: Visit the Project Inform website for an excellent response to Levy's *Lancet* commentary (www.projinf.org). ▼

MAIL TO: Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth St., San Francisco, CA 94103

Footballin'

by Jim Provenzano

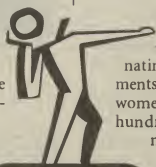
One of my gym class favorites was flag football. It was when I truly understood the joy of sport: chasing after your opponent's butt. While it wasn't really the goal of the game, knowing you were supposed to grab the guy's shorts right about there made being a jock suddenly simple.

Flag football is also not as impactive as its antecedent, so folks can play longer as weekend warriors without spending the next week in traction. There also aren't as many rules, so it approaches soccer in its pace.

This weekend, women from around the Bay Area will converge in Oakland for the International

Women's Flag Football Association's (IWFFA) tournament, an event that according to organizer Eileen Fesco, while not called a lesbian event, is certainly lesbian-filled, with a happy diversity of some straight women competing as well.

This is the third season for the event, which already has four girls' and four women's teams registered. Games start at 11 a.m. on Saturday October 10, culminating in the finals matches on Sunday, October 11 - girls at 2 p.m., women at 3:30ish. What with it being National Coming Out Day, maybe even the refs will turn out to be sisters.



Sports Complex

Diane Beruldsen, the founder of the IWFFA, has been traveling North America and Europe since

1995 promoting the game of flag football for females. Coordinating flag football tournaments and clinics for girls and women has taken Beruldsen hundreds of thousands of miles around the world.

Living largely out of her truck, her eye-catching billboard-on-wheels of football-playing mermaids is a regular sight at IWFFA tournaments.

The IWFFA's members can get medical insurance to handle any of those athletic injuries, plus other benefits. According to her mission statement, the IWFFA "seeks to provide the opportunity for girls and women to enjoy healthy competition and develop teamwork and leadership skills through fair play and sportship, and hopes to empower women and girls and plant the seed for a stronger female in our society."

One of the other big events created by the IWFFA is a February tournament in Key West, Florida. The Presidents' Day weekend is fast becoming a sidekick to the Dinah Shore golf classic. "It's great way to spend a vacation," said Fesco. Women can plan ahead with IWFFA's travel deals, too.

But first it's Oakland's fun this weekend. If you haven't registered for this event, or aren't on a team, but want to play, never fear. Registration is still open to teams of all levels, and individuals who can join the crew of what Fesco called "loose women."

The festivities include other events, so whether you're a player



Rob Mirac, IWFFA

...and fun for women.

or a fan, bring some sunblock, hope for some sun, and get to Oakland for this event. It'll only cost you the gas or fare to get there, since the events are free.

To register as a "loose woman" call (415) 824-7841. Games take place at Bushrod Recreational Center Fields, 560 59th Street in northwest Oakland. Take BART to the Ashby station, then walk or ride 12 blocks south along Shattuck. ▼

For more info on the International Women's Flag Football Association, call 1-

888-GO-IWFFA, or visit their website at <http://www.iwffa.com> or write to: IWFFA, 1107 Key Plaza Suite 233, Key West, Florida 33040.

The local women's flag football squad also meets every Sunday at Franklin Park, 17th and Bryant, in San Francisco. Refereed games go from 9:30 a.m. to 3ish. Sorry, no contact number at press time.

Men's flag football takes place in verdant Golden Gate Park every Saturday at 10 a.m. Call Daryll at (415) 441-7760 or Jeff at (510) 893-0744.



Rob Mirac, IWFFA

Flag football, fun for girls...

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Check out our Website: www.virx.com

ViRx, Inc., 1375 Sutter St., Suite 407, San Francisco, CA 94109

Picture

Be sure to send off your favorite pictures to Team SF for inclusion in the home-grown book about Gay Games. Deadline: October 15. Mail to Team SF, 2215R Market St. #519 SF CA 94105, or call (415) 522-2386.

Party

The Eternal Flame Party is this Saturday, October 10, from 7-10 p.m. at the home of hostess Sarah Waddell Lewinstein (141 Albion, between 16th & 17th, in San Francisco). Make donations to Team SF and schmooze with jocks. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Shanti's 'Ride for Life' revving up

Motorcyclists raise money for AIDS

by Cynthia Laird

Shanti encourages motorcyclists to get their hogs out for the agency's second annual "Ride for Life: A Motorcycle Ride for AIDS," next Sunday, October 18. Starting in San Francisco, the Ride for Life offers participants a chance to head out on the highway to this year's destination, the Russian River wine country, where there will be a barbecue, entertainment, and a chance to win prizes.

Last year more than 100 motorcycles joined together for the first such event, to raise both money and awareness in the fight against HIV/AIDS. This year Shanti hopes even more people will participate. Proceeds will allow the San Francisco-based agency to continue its nationally recognized volunteer support services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

"I'm just really, really excited to see the motorcycle community being part of our agency," Shanti Executive Director Robert Rybicki told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "They bring so much to us, their hearts, dollars ... it's a real nice kind of support for us, and we

welcome them to our family."

Rybicki pointed out that riders come from throughout the Bay Area, including as far south as San Jose. "They're not just from San Francisco," he said.

Riders are required to pay a \$25 per-motorcycle fee, which includes admission to the barbecue, but most funds are raised through pledges. People can sign up now to start raising money; last year the average person brought in \$150, with the total raised reaching over \$11,000, according to Ron Perri, Shanti's development coordinator.

To be eligible to participate, drivers must have a current valid motorcycle license; people without a license can ride on the back of a friend's or family member's bike. Perri said there are opportunities for non-riders to volunteer to help either before or during the ride.

The ride will start at China Basin, with registration at 9 a.m. and staggered departures beginning at 10. The ride will end in Monte Rio at the Northwood restaurant and picnic area. Prizes will be distributed to those raising various amounts of money, starting with those who raise at least \$25 and continuing to the grand prize of a leather vest plus other



Bikers head out on the Ride for Life last year.

goodies for those raising \$1,000 or more. Those raising between \$100 and \$249 will receive a T-shirt and commemorative pin. Sweatshirts and bags will be awarded to those raising more money, organizers said.

Shanti, formerly called the Shanti Project, has served people with terminal illness and their

loved ones in San Francisco since 1974. It is now primarily dedicated to enhancing the quality of life, improving the well-being, and promoting the independence of people from all communities living with HIV/AIDS. Shanti's services - including client advocacy, emotional support, hospital-based counseling, practical assis-

tance, case management, recreation, and transportation - are provided by trained volunteers and staff. ▼

For a "Ride for Life" registration kit, more info, or to find out about volunteer opportunities, call (415) 487-4720.

National consumer network targets gay and lesbian market

PRNewswire

Sandy Casey, founder and co-chair of Access Alliance, has announced the launch of a national consumer network to bring gay and lesbian consumers together for group discounts and gay-specific offerings from a host of major corporations. The innovative network puts the purchasing power of the gay and lesbian community to work for members, saving time and money while accessing benefits from companies that embrace equal treatment and respect for lesbians and gays, Casey said.

Initial membership offerings include discounts and tailored products for travel, entertainment, dining, insurance, and legal and financial services from progressive, like-minded companies such as Aetna, Continental Airlines, The Hartford, National Car Rental and Unum, among others.

Bruce Hale, assistant vice president of diversity marketing for The Hartford, hailed the opportunity. "Access Alliance provides us and other major corporations with a great way to reach out to the gay and lesbian market. The Hartford places a high value on diversity and inclusion. Our outreach to gay and lesbian consumers is not only an extension of our internal policies providing fair treatment for all employees, but also is a sound business decision."

"As a lesbian, I know first-hand the subtle discrimination inherent in many products and services that are designed with non-gay consumers and households in mind," said Casey. "Now, gay consumers will finally get the respect and service we deserve."

"Our goal is two-fold," said Joel Raznick, executive vice president and co-chair of the company. "First, to provide products that meet the community's needs like home and auto insurance that gives committed gay couples the same benefits that married couples receive. And second, to harness our community's buying power for increased savings on a variety of products from travel and entertainment to legal and financial services."

Access Alliance will begin marketing memberships to the gay and lesbian community in October with advertisements in national and regional gay publications and direct mail solicitations to consumers in 31 states. The \$20 annual memberships are currently available through the Internet at www.accessalliance.com and by calling Access Alliance at (800) 693-2349.

Members will receive an introductory consumer manual detailing available benefits and toll-free numbers to providers, along with an introductory coupon for up to \$100 off airfare on most major airlines. Additional monthly mailings will follow with special offers from participating companies.

Access Alliance is a national consumer network offering a world of products and services to meet the specific needs of gay and lesbian consumers, their families and friends. This innovative network puts the purchasing power of the gay and lesbian community to work for its members, saving them time and money. Through Access Alliance, members gain access to consumer benefits from companies that embrace equal treatment and respect for lesbians and gays. ▼

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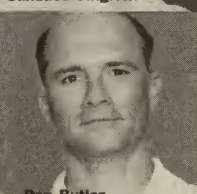
We can have our cake and eat it too! Join HRC's Candace Gingrich and her special guests, including invited speaker Mayor Willie Brown, as they honor current NCOD spokesperson Betty DeGeneres.



Betty DeGeneres



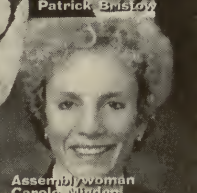
Candace Gingrich



Dan Butler



Patrick Bristow



Assemblywoman Carole Migden



For more information, call 800-866-NCOD

Castro, Mission area schools get AOL grants

by Timothy Rodrigues

The AOL Foundation, the philanthropic organization of the Internet service provider America Online, has awarded grants to two San Francisco schools as part of its Interactive Education Initiative (IEI) grants program, according to an announcement on September 16.

The schools, the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy (HMCRA) and Mission High School, were among the nine grants made in California out of a total of 54 selected from a pool of 600 applications.

"We are confident in both the Civil Rights Academy and Mission High School's ability to have a positive, long-term impact on the lives and futures of their students," Jim Kimsey, co-founder of America Online and chairman of the AOL Foundation, said in a prepared statement.

IEI makes grant awards of up to \$7,500 to teams of educators and others as seed money "to develop and implement innovative, hands-on projects that improve student performance through the integration of interactive technology into the learning environment," according to information posted on the

foundation's website.

HMCRA, on 19th Street between Collingwood and Diamond in the Castro area, was awarded \$7,230 to implement the Internet Publishing Access Program. That program ensures training in new technology and communications tools for young people in underserved communities in San Francisco.

Mission High School received \$7,500 to implement The Road to the 21st Century, a project of four ninth-grade teachers who will combine their efforts to develop curriculum to improve literacy through the use of technology and online services.

The AOL Foundation was established in 1997 to "pioneer the development of strategies and programs that leverage the power of the emerging global medium to benefit society by improving the lives of families and children, and empowering the disadvantaged"; IEI is the first major grant program.

The deadline for the next round of grants is October 30. ▼

For more information on the foundation check its website at <http://www.aol.com/corp/phil/ffacts.html> or AOL keyword "AOL Foundation," or call (703) 265-1342.

Jack Wrangler sues for \$1M after wife falls in hole

United Press International

Broadway singer Margaret Whiting and her former porno star husband Jack Wrangler say their lives have been ruined ever since Whiting stepped in a hole at a Con Edison work site and injured herself. Now the couple are suing for \$3 million. In papers filed this week in Manhattan State Supreme Court, Whiting says a contractor hired by Con Ed left

unsafe conditions at a job on Sixth Avenue and 57th Street last April. She says she stepped in a hole and suffered a knee injury that has left her in severe pain "of a permanent and lasting nature." The 73-year-old is seeking \$2 million.

The other \$1 million is being sought by 52-year-old Wrangler, who starred in some 90 gay porno films before he married Whiting. He's suing for the loss of conjugal fellowship and sexual fulfillment. ▼

Kids can't read about gays in Wisconsin

United Press International

The Barron, Wisconsin area school board is under fire after it removed four books dealing with homosexuality from the high school library. The books were removed after an area resident complained. The president

of the barron school board claims the books were banned because they contain profanity, not because they deal with homosexuality.

The Wisconsin chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union is urging the board to reconsider, and is threatening to go to court if it doesn't. ▼

National news briefs

United Press International

Revs get it on on I-69

Twenty percent of men taken into custody for alleged homosexual activity at two Genesee County, Michigan freeway rest stops were ministers, according to published reports. State Police raided the rest areas, which had been advertised on the Internet and in specialty magazines, Monday, October 5. Some arrests were carried out on Interstate 75, according to State Police Sergeant Dan Atkinson, but the majority happened at a rest area on Inter-

state 69. Atkinson told the *Flint Journal* that two of the 10 men arrested were ministers, and most were married.

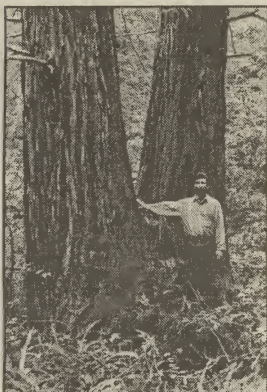
Fighting bigotry in Ohio

An anonymous donor has given \$100 thousand to the Oxford Community Foundation to help fight bigotry in that southwestern Ohio college town. The money will be used for education programs to heighten appreciation by Oxford residents and Miami University students for race, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic diversity. ▼

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BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

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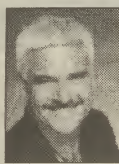
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BAY AREA REPORTER

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225458

The following person(s) are doing business as Every Day's A Holiday 1835 Divisadero San Francisco, CA 94115. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Byron Bentley. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 9/9/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/10/98. SEPT 17, 24, OCT. 1, 8, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225413

The following person(s) are doing business as San Francisco Dyke Mommy 1520 Alice St. #204 Oakland, CA 94612. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jean Aschbrenner. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 9/8/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/8/98. SEPT 17, 24, OCT 1, 8, 1998

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225535

The following person(s) are doing business as Castro Village Cleaners 4107 19th St. San Francisco CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed William Knox Price Jr. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 9/14/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/14/98.

OCT 1, 8, 15, 22, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225735

The following person(s) are doing business as The Bread Man 380 Guerrero San Francisco CA 94103. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed Simone Feltosa Alves, Ralph D Santos Alves. The registrants commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/22/98.

OCT 1, 8, 15, 22, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225705

The following person(s) are doing business as Rogue Records 1594 Union St #53 SF CA 94113. This business is conducted by an individual signed Paul A Woodcock. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 9/22/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/21/98.

OCT 1, 8, 15, 22, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225922

The following person(s) are doing business as Bayside Limousine #9 Theresa St., San Francisco CA 94112. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Kyi-Win Maung, Kan Lok Chan. The registrants commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 9/30/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 9/30/98.

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OCT 8,15, 22,29 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 225870
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OCT 8,15, 22,29 1998

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, NO. 998233
In the Matter of the Application of Irene Rea. For Change of Name, the application of Irene Rea for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Irene Rea has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Raymond Rea. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 RM 206 on the 17th day of November, 1998, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing, dated this day of October 1, 1998.
OCTOBER 8, 15, 22, 29 1998

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The best little pseudonym in the world
Andrew Tobias comes out as John Reid in a
25th anniversary edition of 'Best Little Boy.'
page 45

Proto riot grrrl
Joan Brown's retrospective
at East Bay museums.
page 47



Bacon bits
John Maybury's biopic
'Love Is the Devil.'
page 39



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 41 • 8 October 1998

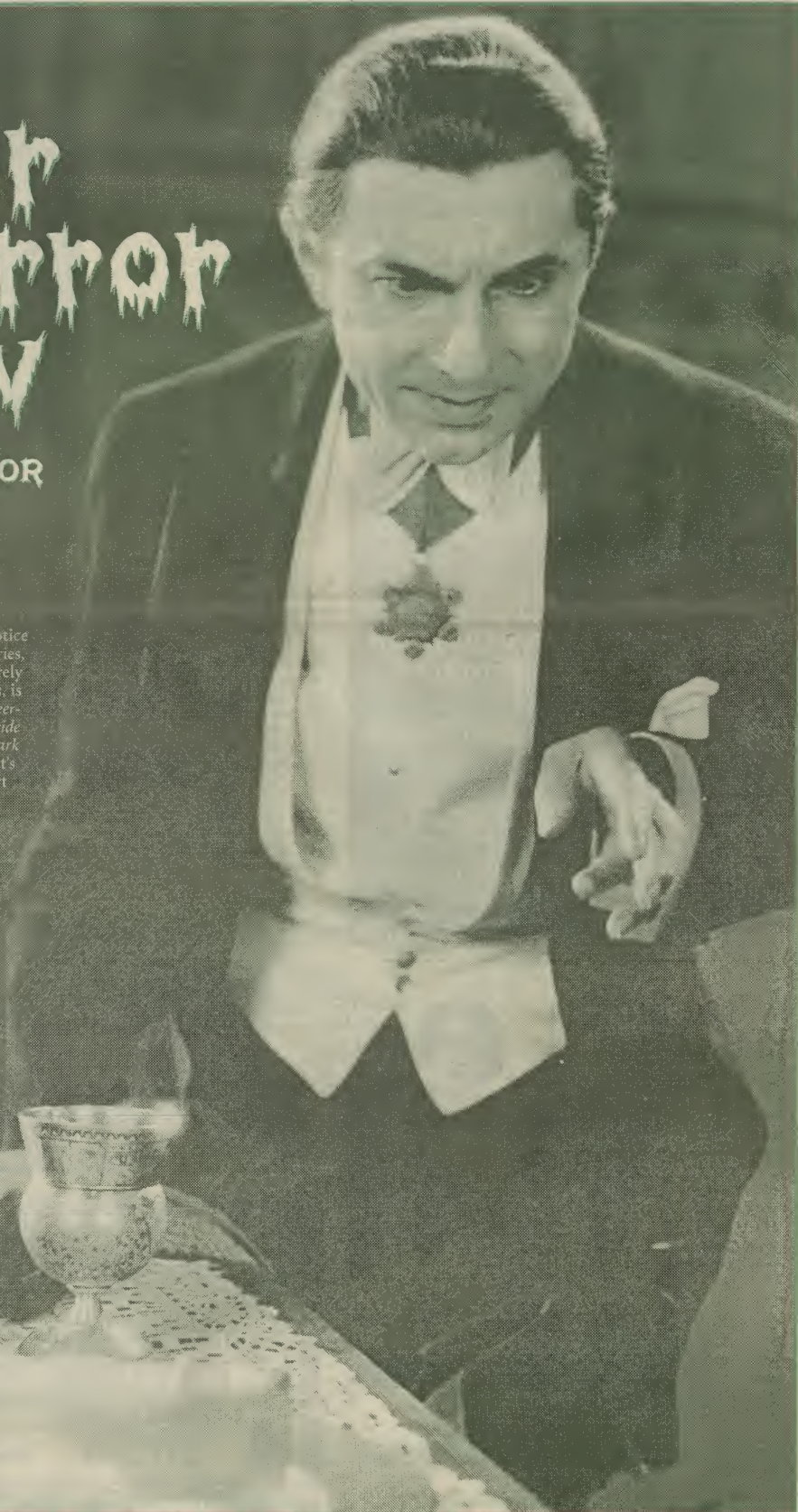
Queer horror show

UNIVERSAL HORROR
SERIES OPENS AT
THE CASTRO

by Gary Morris

The first thing queer audiences will notice about the Castro's Universal Horror series, after the obligatory bow to these rarely screened, glistening new 35mm prints, is the all-pervasive, barely disguised, downright queerness of classics like *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, *The Bride of Frankenstein*, *The Invisible Man*, *The Old Dark House*, *The Black Cat*, and *Dracula's Daughter*. It's no news that lesbians have long claimed Lambert Hillyer's *Dracula's Daughter* for their own. After all, Gloria Holden in the title role single-handedly redefined the '20s movie vamp as an impressive Euro-butche dyke bloodsucker. But other key works, particularly those directed by certified homo James Whale, have strong, inescapable gay content. Think of *The Bride of Frankenstein*'s literally screaming queens Colin Clive and Ernest Thesiger, with fag hag Elsa Lanchester thrown in for good measure. *The Old Dark House*'s key relationship is between its two male outsiders; when one is killed, the other goes berserk, in a queer motif that presages a similar event in a much different film, *The Road Warrior*, decades later. The title character in *The Invisible Man*

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Bela Lugosi's undead as Dracula

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

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Photo: Andy Devine

by Roberto Friedman
and the Windy Cindy

That touring production of *Chicago* now at the Golden Gate can sure pack a show-biz wallop, and its opening night last week was as high-voltage in glamour and theatrical energy as anything we've seen in these parts lately, both on stage and in the audience (note to opera scribe **Paul Thomason**: Try to stay calm, but we sighted champion figure-skater **Brian Boitano**!). We were still razzle-dazzled by the show as we raced to Union Square for the cast party thrown by "Best Of Broadway" producer **Carole Shorenstein Hays** at the St. Francis, to which we had inexplicably been invited. The lavish fiesta was at Alexandra's, high in the heavens on the hotel's "Imperial Floor" — that's the one 32 flights up which you reach by the glass elevators. Hold on to your stomach, Madge, up we go!

We were astonished to find members of the singin', dancin' cast arriving just moments after we did, having changed out of their flesh-revealing costumes into evening attire, removed their makeup (well, most of it), and set their star power to low-key in order to accept congratulations graciously.

"Whoa! They got here fast! Well, I only hope I don't have to knock any of them down on my way for seconds at the dessert trough," said our date **Pepi**, and that gives you some idea of how the night progressed. The stylishly-appointed new Alexandra's room-with-a-view used to be Oz, but only a pair of darling tortoiseshell lamps survive its previous incarnation from disco daze (a good thing, because killing the endangered sea tortoise is *verboten*, don'tchaknow.) The amenities at this excludedoo *soirée* included hot-and-cold running bars, groaning boards of pasta and carved meats, trays of hors d'oeuvres offered by scurrying waiters, and the aforementioned dessert offerings. **Pepi** piled his plate high with roast beast, and spent much of his time between mouthfuls flashing his winning smile at handsome cast members,



One of the Merry Murderesses in *Chicago* jazes it up.

while encouraging us to play Stalk the Stars as well.



Out There

The crowd was fashionable — theatre types, socialites, and a smattering of television anchorpeople, the kind you recognize and think, "There should be a weather map behind that face!" Do their names really matter? When a roving photographer assembled some notables for the flash-and-cheese, overexposed

TV "critic" the **Hat Lady** pushed herself into the shot. Everywhere one pointed (and point **Pepi** did) were stars of the stage! There was sexy **Brent Barrett**, who makes such a handsome cartoon of a sharky lawyer in **Billy Flynn**.

There was **Roxie Hart** herself, **Charlotte d'Amboise**!

We loved the show, which bills itself as "The Drop-Dead Musical," and thank gawd someone knows how to use a hyphen. We liked especially the company's dramatic rendition of "the press," which seemed to consist primarily of scribbling endlessly on little notepads. But we hadn't the heart to inflict ourselves (the true face of the press) on the stars on their glamorous night, despite **Pepi**'s prodding. After all, as pathetic artist **Cary "Candyass" Leibowitz** has aptly said, "A man in the hand is worth two in the bush." So we retrieved our press kit from the ever-accommodating coatcheck and were off into the night, taking with us the same man we had brought to the party.



From Nir Hod's *Women Soldiers*

Promised glands

You are welcomed to *Desert Cliché: Israel Now* — *Local Images*, the group show of 17 contemporary artists now at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, by **Nir Hod**'s triptych, captivating portraits of apparently authentic female Israeli soldiers; striking defiant poses. In fact, the women warriors in his work are the (male) artist himself, or the Israeli rock singer **Aviv Geffen**, or male soldiers, in drag. The *Women Soldiers* are large phototransfers on canvas, placed in glitter frames, and were originally exhibited in an exhibition called *Meta-Sex 94*, a show about gender and sexuality. **Hod**'s works take stereotypes of the Israeli macho, of *sabra* toughness, and turn them on their heads. *Desert Cliché* remains on view through November 1 at Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. Call 978-ARTS.

Fair fall-out

What crack newsgatherer working for San Francisco's major mainstream media outlet was so intent on getting the "inside scoop" thing from a certain **Castro Street Fair** performer that he spent the night after the party in bed with the notoriously big-dicked threnodist? Hint: it wasn't **Hank Plante**, so don't call him to ask for details.

After the tremendous hype
page 50 ▶

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THEATRE



Brent Barrett as Billy Flynn, and the Merry Murderesses in Chicago

Killer chorines

'Chicago' at the Golden Gate Theatre

by Richard Dodds

The original *Chicago* was cynical and rude and gaudy. The new *Chicago* is cynical and rude and sexy. This may help explain that while the original *Chicago* was appreciated, the new *Chicago* has been embraced.

Chicago always aimed to be a seductive musical, using show-biz razzle dazzle to indict society, and by extension, its own audiences for their contributions to a prurient ethical malaise. But if some audiences in 1975 felt hectored, the musical's tale of celebrity murderers, crafty lawyers, and media manipulation now registers as common knowledge. What still registers as deliciously uncommon is the late Bob Fosse's choreography, a treasury of angles and attitudes that is probably now better showcased by the revival's lean-and-mean concept.

Fosse first had the idea to turn to the 1926 play *Chicago* (filmed with Ginger Rogers in 1942 as *Roxie Hart*) into a musical starring Gwen Verdon back in the mid-'50s. By the time the idea finally reached the stage, Verdon — God bless her — was no longer a come-lately ingenue. Likewise her co-star Chita Rivera. With the taut, lithe, and slinky Charlotte d'Amboise and Donna Marie Asbury now playing these parts in the touring edition at the Golden Gate Theatre, there are sexual sparks that the original could not have had.

There are musical numbers that come more alive because of this, but there are other songs that need the fuel of personality, something Verdon and Rivera have buckets of, and that by all accounts Anne Reinking and Bebe Neuwirth brought to the revival when it opened on Broadway two years ago. There are key moments in the touring edition, notably the duets that end each act, that don't deliver the kind of pow they should.

Reinking, a Fosse protégé, succeeded Verdon during the original run of *Chicago*, and she has effectively choreographed the revival, as the program states, "in the style of Bob Fosse." The songs by John Kander and Fred Ebb are entertaining vaudeville pastiches that gave Fosse his last chance to put his stamp on a book musical, and it's exciting to see his moves again in this fresh yet authoritative take on the original.

Edge intact

The revival itself is something of a happy accident, the result of a concert version that by necessity used imagination in the place of elaborate sets and costumes. With few embellishments, the edgy less-is-more look guided by director Walter Bobbie was transferred intact to Broadway, where its run is guaranteed to far outstrip its predecessor's.

D'Amboise and Asbury play Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, a couple of chorines in jail for murder who try to outmaneuver each other for the press coverage that will help them beat their respective raps. Roxie is the better role and d'Amboise the more interesting performer, even evoking some of Verdon's quirks. (D'Amboise also played Lola, the role that made Verdon a star, in the recent revival of *Damn Yankees*.) Asbury has only recently stepped into the role of Velma, and there may be more personality to come.

As their slick lawyer Billy Flynn, a confident Brent Barrett offers high-tone sleaze. Avery

Sommers as the prison matron and Ron Orbach as Roxie's milquetoast husband miss some of their characters' flavors, but M.E. Spencer adds an extra kick to sister reporter Mary Sunshine's big song. The dance ensemble looks great, and the buffed guys, their derby hats notwithstanding, would have fit right in at the Folsom Fair in William Ivey Long's minimal, tight, and leathery costumes. The lighting by Ken Billington is also a star, bringing atmosphere and bursts of color to the black-and-white tones of the production.

Though he is the only member of the original creative team no longer around, Bob Fosse provides *Chicago* with its pulse. This production honors him, not by being a museum piece, but by polishing up the old razzle dazzle to a '90s glint. ▼

Chicago will run at the Golden Gate Theatre through Nov. 7. Tickets are \$27-\$72. Call 776-1999.



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THEATRE

Nicky Silver through thick and thin

by Richard Dodds

Nicky Silver wants you to laugh at his plays, but watch out, it's probably a trick. "I think of comedy as a seductive tool," said the playwright, a rising star and an unabashed neurotic. "You offer the audience the promise of happiness, and then you clobber them."

That's certainly the case with *Raised in Captivity*, his 1995 play that seems at first like a first cousin to Christopher Durang's brand of wacky absurdism, before revealing an anguished soul. "It's probably still my favorite play of mine," said Silver, whose credits include *The Food Chain*, *Pterodactyls*, and *Fat Men in Skirts*. "It deals with things that are extremely important to me, and I think it deals with them as honestly as I could deal with them at the time."

Bay Area audiences are getting their first chance to see *Raised in Captivity* at the Magic Theatre, where it's being presented by ACT's Masters of Fine Arts Program as a showcase for its Advanced Training Program graduates. "I'm the toast of the student world," said the playwright, who knows his plays are sometimes too much for mainstream theaters. "I think that they are afraid of them," he said from New York. "Then again, maybe they just don't like them."

In *Raised in Captivity*, the central character is Sebastian, a gay man in his 30s who has been sexu-



Nicky Silver

ally and emotionally celibate since the death of his lover from AIDS 11 years before. "I have no contact with anyone," the character says, "including myself." He is forced into a reunion with his manic weight-obsessed twin sister following the death of their mother in a freak shower accident, although their mother returns as a ghost to reveal a horrific secret about their father. Also on hand are Sebastian's emotionally unstable therapist, his sister's teeth-hating dentist husband, and a pen-pal convict who provides Sebastian with his only hint of human contact.

"The necessity of forgiving ourselves is at the heart of the play," Silver said. "It also deals with how do we love someone when they live outside our own moral code, and can you separate crime from the criminal, and

what is the nature of punishment and whom does it serve?"

Families in the extremes of dysfunction have been key elements of Silver's plays, which often center on a character who bears at least surface similarities to Silver. But, he said, he grew up in a "pretty normal family where nothing particularly bad happened, except that I experienced things as horrible. I'm not sure if it's not genetic."

Puppet therapy

When he was just 3, his parents sent him to a therapist. "I had apparently stopped eating and become uncommunicative," Silver said. The psychiatrist decided he had homosexual tendencies, and set out to cure him. "I've repressed almost all of that. All I remember is playing with puppets."

He does remember being a picked-upon overweight child, which finally changed when he shed 100 pounds once he headed off to college. Themes of physical appearance and desirability often show up in Silver's plays, most notably in *The Food Chain*, his biggest commercial success to date. "Basically, there is a finite amount of happiness in the world," he said, "and the thin people are going to get it."

Now reasonably trim and professionally successful, does he consider himself at last one of the beautiful people? "I barely think of myself as a person, let alone a beautiful person," he said. "I still think of myself as a tub of lard."

Like the character Sebastian in



ACT students Andrew Alabran and Alex Ugelow in *Raised in Captivity*

Raised in Captivity, Silver is living his life without physical intimacies. "I think of myself as an old spinster making apple wine on Walton's Mountain," he said. "I'm sure if intimacy reared its ugly head, I wouldn't shy away from it, but I'm not actively looking. There are other rewards in life, you know. Some people are meant to lead monastic lives, but I certainly have physical outlets. They're just solitary — and constant."

Not surprisingly, perhaps, Silver has spent a good portion of his adult life in therapy, and his experiences at age 3 notwithstanding, it has been a rewarding process that he says has helped him to better channel his rage. Does writing serve as a catharsis that helps dissipate the rage? "Sometimes," he said, "but sometimes it just helps me understand it."

Starting with *The Food Chain*,

which opened shortly after *Raised in Captivity*, critics have noticed a kinder, gentler voice in Silver's recent plays. "Fit to Be Tied and *Maiden's Prayer* were probably less rebellious," he said, "but I have a new play opening next season called *The Altruist* that I think is extremely rebellious. It's about the fraud of the liberal mindset and political hypocrisy in the theatrical community."

So the rage remains? "I think a certain amount of rage is a good thing," Silver said. "I would say I have the same amount of rage as before, just focused on different things. Less focused on me, let's say, and more focused on them." ▼

Raised in Captivity will run at the Magic Theatre through Oct. 17. Tickets are \$10. Call 749-2228.

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Academic couplings

'Bad Manners' opens at the Roxie

by Gary Morris

Movies based on plays don't always fare well in the transition. There's a double danger here: slavishly recreating the "stage experience" in its often talky entirety can deaden a film and drive away audiences; over-cinematizing a play by moving everything outdoors and adding lots of angles and cuts can kill that all-important sense of intimacy. Jonathan Kaufer's movie adaptation of David Gilman's play *Those in the Machine* wisely avoids both these traps. *Bad Manners* (1997) betrays its stage origins in the best possible way, with a witty, disturbing script and an ensemble of superb performances, but there's enough visual variety to make it work beautifully as a film.

The story pits a quartet of intelligent but self-deluded academics against each other in what's supposed to be a relaxing reunion of some old friends. Wes (David Straithairn) is a cynical, lecherous professor of religion bored by his marriage to sweet, sad Nancy (Bonnie Bedelia). Their relationship is strained by the arrival of Nancy's old boyfriend Matt (Saul Rubinek) and his girlfriend, a seductive and possibly deranged computer whiz named Kim (Caroleen Feeney). Matt, like Nancy, is a musicologist; in a conceit the film works to great comic effect, the pretentious Matt believes he's discovered a musical miracle: the inexplicable appearance of a snippet of a medieval hymn into a random, computer-generated composition by one "Minh Schumann."

Meanwhile, Kim encourages Nancy to start screwing her stu-

dents; Wes makes disturbing jokes about having testicular cancer; Matt tries to convince his peers he's not a liar; Kim tempts wavering Wes with her nubile charms; and Wes convinces Nancy that Kim is a thief who's stolen fifty dollars from him. This is a key development, the kind of small, nagging detail that escalates into an absurd but always subterranean battle of wills. The film becomes a suffocating web of unanswered questions, with the characters' real motives — and indeed key plot points — always tantalizingly out of reach. This film might have been called *Secrets and Lies* — there seem to be plenty of both in all these characters — if Mike Leigh hadn't gotten there first.

Bad Manners has clear similarities to Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* As in the earlier film, the central characters of *Bad*



Caroleen Feeney and Saul Rubinek in Jonathan Kaufer's *Bad Manners*

Manners are two academic couples who flirt, fight, and perhaps fuck their way through a torturous few days. In keeping with the '90s mood that prefers civilized despair to violent histrionics, though, *Bad Manners* forsakes George and Martha-style scream-and-slugfests in favor of slow

burns, quietly vicious dialogue, and an implication that under every placid surface is chaos waiting to erupt. ▼

Bad Manners opens Friday, October 9 at the Roxie Cinema, and runs for two weeks.

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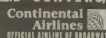
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Tree Grows

◀ page 36

years earlier, and then successfully filmed two years after that. But the musical version opened just as Truman was making way for Eisenhower, and the often-sad tale rooted in a poverty where even a spoonful of sugar can be an impossible luxury clearly did not match the tenor of those optimistic times.

The opening song in the Arthur Schwartz and Dorothy Fields score is about the pawnshop treadmill, while the second act begins with the company singing about the woes of clothes — you have to buy them and wash them and mend them. There are several delights in the score, including the haunting ballad "Make the Man Love Me," the kick-up-your-heels "Look Who's Dancing," and the humorous "He Had Refinement."

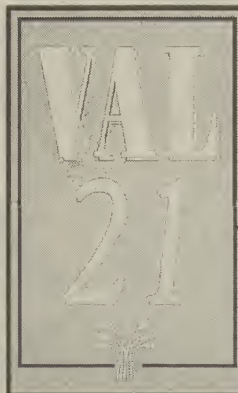
Smith's novel focused on the misadventures of the Nolan family in Brooklyn during the early years of this century. In the novel, the story is told through the eyes of the bright and eager Francie Nolan, who adores her charming but ne'er-do-well alcoholic father. In the musical adaptation by Smith and George Abbott, Francie doesn't arrive until the second act, leaving the first half of the show unfocused. Even when she does appear, she doesn't get a song to sing. And then there was the Shirley

Booth conundrum. The popular performer walked away with the show, but she was playing a comic-relief supporting character that should not have become the star turn. It didn't help that the actual leading roles, Katie and Johnny Nolan, were played by Broadway first-timers who couldn't match Booth's aura.

Booth was cast as Katie's wise-cracking older sister Cissy, who has set up housekeeping with a succession of "husbands." It turns out that the character is still the most vibrant thing in the show. That's partly because Katie is basically a stalwart character and the disarming Johnny is miscast here, but it's also because Carla Befera is such a comic delight as Cissy. As Katie, Susan Powers brings a demure dignity and a solid voice. But Joe Guffire is too reserved in manner and voice for Johnny, convincing us of neither his charms nor his dissipation. There is pleasing work from Lianne Marie Dobbs as young Francie.

Directed by Jon DiSavino, this staged-concert rendering doesn't feel as sharp in its staging or in song as previous 42nd Street Moon offerings. A tree may grow in Brooklyn, but in this case it's missing a few of its leaves. ▼

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FILM

Bringing home the Bacon

'Love Is the Devil' biopic

by Gary Morris

In a typical moment in John Maybury's artful biopic of Francis Bacon, the ultra-queer painter strolls into his favorite pub, eyes the motley crowd of queens and fag hags, and grandly toasts, "Welcome to the concentration of camp!" *Love Is the Devil* is filled with such sentiments, apparently trawled from Bacon's own words, which like his personality could be vicious or inspiring, and sometimes both at once.

Bacon was a charismatic figure in real life, but at first glance too enigmatic and — like his paintings — too downright creepy to be an obvious choice for the subject of a feature film. Audiences who have trouble grasping anything more complex than cars exploding and meteors hurtling to Earth will surely bristle at this film's bald treatment of an often unlikeable British aesthete who happily bares his ass for the brutal ministrations of an army of rough trade. Then there are those pesky timeshifts, which force the viewer to ponder precisely where and when the action is occurring, not to mention sudden interpolations of gruesome images from the unconscious of Bacon's psycho boyfriend George. Those who don't know Bacon's work will be puzzled by the film's playful, subtle recreations of it in the staging of scenes. The fact that *Love Is the Devil* is as good as it is, which is to say good indeed, is a testament to director Maybury's skill in manipulating this tricky material and Derek Jacobi's brilliance in interpreting the role of Bacon.

Wisely, the film doesn't follow the rules of the standard artistic bio; it ignores the birth, youth, and death of Bacon in favor of a steamy seven-year chunk of his life, from the night in 1964 when he takes up with petty criminal and working-class hunk George Dyer to their divorce by suicide in 1971. Their meeting happens when the painter discovers his future husband preparing to rob him, and instead of calling the police invites him in for a night of S&M thrills. Jacobi plays Bacon as a reluctant Svengali, hiring George as model, fucktoy, and butch Boy Friday, succumbing nightly to George's assaults, but angry and bored the next day at how needy he is. (George establishes decisively the mirror image of the "pushy bottom" in his "timid top.") Daniel Craig plays the character as a desperate, demented Trilby whose immersion in a scene he has no real part in drives him to abusive rent boys, drink, and drugs.

Flesh and blood

Director Maybury, an artist himself who worked with Derek Jarman, immerses the viewer in the interior world of his subject. Bacon's innovative portrayals of the human figure as a screaming shell of flesh and blood are the obvious inspiration for much of what we see — strobe-lit, blood-drenched images, distorted faces, autopsy photos, a mysterious naked gymnast always perched on the edge of a fall. When Bacon and his pals attend a boxing match, he practically has an orgasm when a spray of blood from the ring splashes his face. The painter's inner world, it seems, is as grim as the paintings,

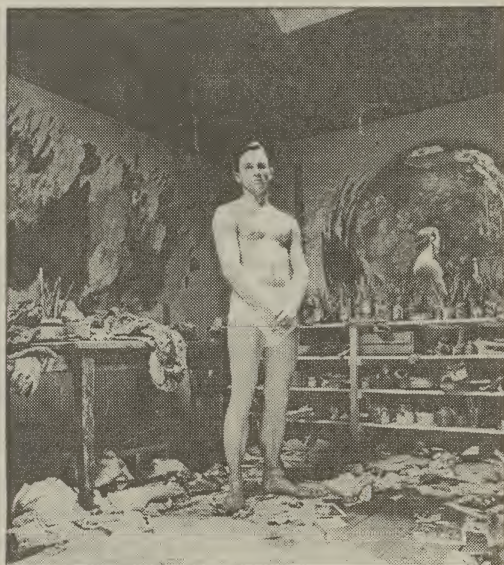
and he's the first to acknowledge it in dialogue that has the force of aphorism: "Sometimes a man's shadow is more in the room than he is," and a phrase that exactly mimics the paintings, "Who if I cry out would hear me?" Of course, George brings it all back to earth with his pitiful plaint about Bacon and his friends: "These people I'm running with ... they'd push me under a bus as soon as look at me!"

When Bacon isn't getting so-lace from George's teary-eyed buttfucking, or a beating by a blonde waiter who looks like a walking Nazi recruitment poster, he's ensconced in the airless space of the local gay bar. This is the arena in whose nervous, brittle energy he seems to be most at home. Churlish fag hag Muriel (Tilda Swinton looking inexplicably like her mouth was mauled by a grizzly) reassuringly calls him "daughter"; she in turn is dished by another, disfavored queen who

tells her, "I'll talk to you after you have a shave." All the while, Bacon pontificates, regales, and insults this jaded coterie, raising even their eyebrows when he gives a toast worthy of James Joyce: "Champagne for my real friends; real pain for my sham friends."

Director Maybury took a welcome risk in portraying Bacon's "lifestyle" without apology, with numerous tableaux of S&M lust, and a lingering full-frontal nude scene for George (in a bathtub). (See Adrian Lyne's atrocious *Lolita* and the gay-sanitized *54* for contrasting examples of films that are sex-apologetic.) There's no attempt to make Bacon lovable — he wasn't in real life — but the film does make him understandable, to the extent possible with a subject so devoutly elusive. ▼

Love Is The Devil opens Friday, October 9 at the Embarcadero Cinemas in San Francisco.



Daniel Craig is Francis Bacon's muse, George Dyer, in *Love Is The Devil*

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First tango in Berkeley

by Tim Pfaff

By now it's clear that the tango and its culture have cast a powerful spell on the stringed-instrument-playing demimonde of the classical music world. Detractors — gratefully few — who try to write it off as a transitory crossover phase in an economically desperate market overlook the fact that the musicians most committed to it are, like violinist Gidon Kremer, largely oblivious of market trends or, like cellist Yo-Yo Ma, whose recent *Soul of Tango* CD for Sony is a sterling entrant in the new sub-genre, anything but desperate. A recording of Ma practicing scales would have a shot at platinum.

Kremer's characteristically ultra-serious recital at Davies Hall a few seasons back closed with the 11 minutes of Astor Piazzolla's "Grand Tango" that was one of the most exalted and fiercely concentrated performances I had yet heard from a musician I have long regarded as one of the world's greatest. That it was anything but pandering became all the more evident as Kremer followed that first venture into a new musical idiom with not one but two CDs of tango music for the ever-enterprising Teldec Records.

Kremer's deep investment in the idiom, which subsequently has taken him to its Argentinean home, has reached a new peak in his revival of a newly-rescored version of *Maria de Buenos Aires*, Piazzolla's sole work for the musical theater. As heard courtesy of gutsy Cal Performances in a concert version at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall last Saturday, the first stop on an American tour, *Maria* erases any remaining doubts about the stature of this insinuating and ultimately enthralling music. As visionary as a Gabriel Garcia Marquez tale, Piazzolla's "tango opera" evokes a musical world as integral and compelling as the Nobel Laureate's writing.

It's the kind of boundary-shattering piece that purists love to hate, and both a 1960s stage version (an original-cast recording of which features Piazzolla himself on the accordion-like bandoneon) and a 1991 operatic version mounted by the adventurous Houston Grand Opera have taken their lumps. So, surely, will Kremer's, which is performed in a version by Leonid Desyatnikov, the Russian Piazzolla fan who had arranged the tangos for Kremer's recordings and public performances. But Kremer's genius has at least arguably always been his work with musical ensembles, and even though five of the nine instrumentalists in this KREMERata Musica band are his fellow Russians, the sound is unmistakably South American. It's dark, sexy, deep-dipping music that gets under your skin and bothers you in the way good art should.

No happy music

Kremer says that one of the things that drew him to Piazzolla's music was the composer's own contention that, while he wrote all kinds of music, he never wrote any happy music — a sentiment any Russian is sure to understand intuitively, and one that had spe-



Maria de Buenos Aires: Per-Arne Glorvigen, Julia Zenko, Horacio Ferrer

cial resonance for Kremer, a lover of Schubert's music who recalled a similar allegation by that great composer.

But if *Maria* is, demonstrably, dark music, it's music that revels in that darkness. The deep pleasure it gave its performers (on its way to the audience) Saturday night was unmistakable — and infectious, to introduce an entirely apropos hint of danger in describing music that depicts a teeming world of brothels and desperate barrio poverty.

It's hard to imagine *Maria* working at all without Julia Zenko, the sultry Argentinean singer with the Morticia Addams affect who embodied, visually and vocally, the woman "born on a day when God was drunk" with three black nails in her throat — though Zenko's voice was infinitely more alluring than the libretto suggests. With Argentinean tango singer Raul Lavie assuming the other singing roles and the opera's librettist, Uruguayan poet Horacio Ferrer, deftly handling the narration (in the Lunfardo dialect of Spanish), it certainly felt authentic enough.

Still, there was much pleasure to be derived from the abundant evidence for that sappy old idea of music as a universal language. Surely tango style can't get much more authentic — or sexier — than Norwegian Per Arne Glorvigen's bandoneon playing. Even though the instrument's basic sound is fixed — in the box, as it were — Glorvigen coaxed sounds from it that emulated those of his string colleagues, frequently merging with their sound in an altogether uncanny way. Austrian double bass player Alois Posch — principal bass of the Vienna Phil-



Gidon Kremer

harmonic — could have given many a jazz bassist a run for the money, and the Russians were, well, Argentinean.

There's no reason to take my word for it, or feel sorry you missed it. The whole show can be heard on a superbly well-recorded two-CD set from Teldec, with all the same artists except Jairo as the male singer.

It was as if one power conjured another in that intense Bay Area musical weekend. In what otherwise has to be written off as a mere fluke of scheduling, across the Bay, Argentinean-born pianist Martha Argerich, as legendary a musician as treads the earth today and another of Kremer's regular recital partners, tore up Davies Hall with three performances of her signature concerto, the Prokofiev Third, with the Symphony and Michael Tilson Thomas. More on that from Phil Campbell next week. ▼

MUSIC

Cryptic moon substrata

by Gregg Shapiro

The French DJ movement (as typified by Daft Punk, among others) that is currently the talk of the music scene reaches its pinnacle on the remarkable *Moon Safari* (Source/Caroline) album by the duo known as Air. Vaguely retro instrumental tracks ("La Femme D'Argent," "Talisman," "Le Voyage De Penelope" and "Ce Matin La") and songs with vocals ("Sexy Boy," "Remember," "All I Need" and "You Make It Easy," the last two featuring Beth Hirsch) are equally enjoyable and memorable. Vocoders, mini moogs, Korg MS20s, and Wurlitzers contribute to the constant sense of déjà vu on *Moon Safari*, and it is to their credit that Jean-Benoit Dunckel and Nicolas Godin (aka Air) were able to create such a familiar, yet fresh sound.

If you prefer your ambience slowed down to a virtual crawl, may I suggest *Substrata* (Thirsty Ear) by Biosphere (aka Geir Jenssen). The latest export from the Netherlands region (Libido, the Getaway People), Biosphere's eleven-track disc sounds to me like the North Pole must sound. It is cold, detached, very solitary. This is especially true on tracks such as "Times When I Know You'll Be Sad," "The Things I Tell You," and "Sphere of No-form."

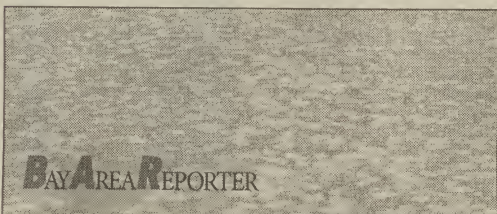
On the other hand, *Cryptic Audio* (Swim) by Tokyo-based dol-lop (aka Yoshiwo Maeda) is a much warmer, more sensuous ex-



perience. While it doesn't come close to generating the same level of heat that the Air disc does, it is still a terrific disc of acid jazz. Songs such as "Phase," "Blue-

house," "Shadow," and "Stem" are particularly good. ▼

Air plays Bimbo's on October 13.



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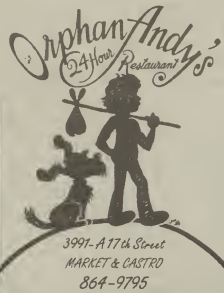
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Frankenstein family comes to the Castro Theatre

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Certain films one sees as a child resonate as one comes to queer consciousness. Billy Wilder's *Some Like It Hot* would be an obvious example. But James Whale's classic 1931 horror film *Frankenstein* and his 1935 sequel, *Bride of Frankenstein*, leave more subtle imprints on the young queer mind; the adult queer viewer will find subtext galore in these superb classics.

This reviewer was ten when she first saw these films on a Saturday afternoon at a local repertory cinema not unlike the Castro. Even to the young eye as yet unschooled in the seductive power of cinema, these films were mesmerizing. Several decades later, they remain an extraordinary visual feast, even in this era of mega special effects. What surprises is the superbly layered and ironic text, as provocative as Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley's novel *Frankenstein*, on which both films were based, must have been when first published in 1816.

Frankenstein reiterates the bulk of Shelley's tale: the mad scientist Dr. Henry Frankenstein (Colin



Elsa Lanchester and Colin Clive in *The Bride of Frankenstein*.

Clive), obsessed with the idea of creating life from bits and pieces of cadavers — and the brain of a criminal. The life he creates — hereafter known as The Monster (the great Boris Karloff) — is, like his creator, missing that vital element, true humanity. Murder and mayhem ensue, including the gruesome killing of a little girl, an element that has extremely pedophilic overtones (footage of these scenes was cut from the original by the Hays Commission; it was restored in 1987). The laboratory where the evil deeds were done is burned to the ground, and a moral, if not happy ending brings down the curtain.

Kitschy opening

In *Bride of Frankenstein*, also directed by Whale, we return to the scene of the initial crime, man playing God. But as good as *Frankenstein* is, *Bride* is better. The film opens with an extraordinarily kitschy drawing-room exchange between Lord Byron (Gavin Gordon), Percy Bysshe Shelley (Douglas Walton), and the impossibly young Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (Elsa Lanchester). The boys discuss Mary's accomplishment in the writing of *Frankenstein* while she, in a Jane Austenesque perversion, does needlepoint and comments that yes, she believes the story will be

published. Byron and Shelley, who could not be more gay if they were in the chorus line of Ballets Trockadero, press for more story. As lightning flashes outside the drawing room, she picks up the tale where the first film left off.

This bizarre prologue has resonance; it drives the point home that this tale was born out of a High Queer environment for a decidedly queer audience. Whale's addition of this historical bit — replete with the casting of Lanchester, who also plays the eponymous *Bride* (and who in real life married that great English queen, Charles Laughton) — is both subtle and deliberate. To paraphrase Gertrude Stein, a subtext is a subtext is a subtext.

Thus Mary begins her sequel: The Monster, despite the best efforts of the village mob who tried to wreak justice on Dr. Frankenstein and his abominable creation in *Frankenstein*, has of course survived the flaming laboratory. His ordeal has left him quite vexed. He kills a few people right off to express his displeasure, relieve his building testosterone levels, and — as he still has not mastered speech — explain to other villagers his plans for them should they continue to treat him shabbily. Then the film's quest — the Monster's search for a "friend" — begins.

A queer allegory on *Otherness*, *Bride* is neat as they come. Frankenstein, too, has survived. And soon he is visited by his former mentor, the amazingly gay

Dr. Pretorious (Ernest Thesiger), who wants Frankenstein to work with him again, this time to build the better monster. Pretorious, it seems, has accomplished cloning, but only on a small scale. (This revelatory scene is totally hilarious, though it is difficult to imagine a straight audience getting it; pay close attention to the clones.) "I need to achieve size," he tells Frankenstein archly.

Dismissed miss

Pretorious epitomizes the queer academic, and clearly Frankenstein was his apt pupil. Frankenstein's fiancée, Elisabeth (Valerie Hobson), gets immediate dismissal (Pretorious gives her a censorious look as she huffs off in her silken nightdress).

Meanwhile, The Monster wanders the countryside in search of companionship he doesn't have to kill. He finds this at the modest cottage of a blind musician who feeds him, gives him his first cigar (there's no avoiding that first), plays violin for him, and then thanks God for sending him a "friend." The musician holds the Monster's hand as he puts him to bed, and the Monster sheds a tear. It's extremely moving and gay, gay, gay.

The film's explosive denouement depicts the "birth" of the bride, the remarkable Lanchester. Though '90s special effects have jaded most of us (just ask the producers of this summer's *Godzilla*), these effects are extraordinary, made more so by marvelous use of Dutch angles and gorgeous cinematography. Franz Waxman's score plays haunting counterpoint.

These are terrific films, wonderfully crafted and compellingly written. *Bride* also has a solid sense of irony that replicates Shelley's own. Thesiger is fabulous, Clive by turns smarmy and contrite, Lanchester unforgettable. Karloff rose to stardom on the basis of his superb performances, despite speaking very little. Read these films fresh from a queer vantage point, and be entertained by the true essence of the world's greatest horror story, evoked splendidly by Whale and his cast. ▼

Frankenstein and Bride of Frankenstein play the Castro October 9-15.

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FILM

Queer horror

◀ Arts cover

makes campy assaults on all the boring normals around him, punctuated by Claude Rains' uncharacteristic high-pitched cackle that's filled with wit and menace.

The homo subtext to classic horror is so compelling that you didn't even have to be gay to let it seep in. Alleged heterosexual director Tod Browning, for example, milks the homo-esque from the admittedly already so inclined *Dracula*. Lugosi's Master Drac, rigid in his black cape, happily enslaves the slobbering bottom Renfield (Dwight Frye) in what is clearly a coded gay S&M relationship. And Edgar G. Ulmer's *The Black Cat* offers a catalog of perversions of the kind society has often attributed to after-hours queers: "unwholesome" sex, incest, devil worship, and — perhaps worst of all — Art, in its Bauhaus setting and fussy, intellectual main character Poelzig, played with mincing menace by a bizarrely coiffed and rouged Boris Karloff.

Of course, these classics are more than just secret homosexual screeds; there's a world of sheer pleasurable strangeness in Universal's gorgeously lit nightmarish wonderlands that understandably sent some audience members screaming from theaters in the 1930s. What follows are some thoughts on the queer elements and other worthy aspects of six of the best of the thirteen films in this series.

Dracula (1931)

Hugely popular and vastly influential, this is the magna carta of vampire movies, and the first of the great cycle of Universal horror films. Director Tod Browning (*Freaks*), who apprenticed in silent film, brings some of the staginess and hokey dramatics of silents to the story of an elegant European vampire's attempts to conquer London neck by neck. Still, *Dracula* retains an awesome power, thanks largely to Bela Lugosi's hypnotic performance and Dwight Frye's energetically insane slavey Renfield. Castro audiences should find much to cheer in the relationship between the two.

Drac's ruined castle, in spite of its vast size, looks every inch the S&M dungeon, lacking only a leather sling and a can of lube. His affair with the supermasochist Renfield begins with bloodsports and proceeds to various kinds of edgeplay, but the Count, a typically fickle top, soon tires of the fun and wants to move on to women and children. But Renfield is a classic pushy bottom who refuses to vanish on cue; he continues to pester his master for attention even after Dracula makes him eat flies and rats. While the Count prefers to be elegantly aloof, only alighting to feed on a victim, Renfield's nagging forces Drac to drop his dignified pose, strangle his former slave, and throw him unceremoniously down one of the film's huge stone staircases. (10/23-25)

Dracula's Daughter (1936)

This project started out as a James Whale film, but the original screenplay was deemed too strange to pass the censors. While we can wish that Whale, a far better director than Lambert Hillyer, had done the job, *Dracula's Daughter* has its own dark charms. The glorious Gloria Holden plays Countess Zaleska as what was then, after Lugosi's enthusiastic evil, a rarity: a vampire desperate to escape the condition. The Countess's attempts to find a psychiatric cure for her malady —

Gloria Holden in *Dracula's Daughter*

what does that remind us of? — are constantly at war with her "wordless, insistent" bloodlust, which most memorably appears in her slow seduction of a beautiful, suicidal model. Scenes of her cruising the dark streets of London (cruising is the word) play with society's image of the lesbian as a soulless predator, but modern audiences will respond to Holden's striking, masklike face and haunting, luminous eyes as the intoxicating essence of transgressive lesbian power. (10/23-25)

Boris Karloff in *Frankenstein***Frankenstein (1931)**

The great success of *Dracula* spurred Universal to look for new monsters; *Frankenstein*, which had appeared in both film and stage versions (the latter as recently as the year before), was a natural choice. Mary Shelley's story of a man playing god had multiple attractions: gruesome imagery, a novel monster, and a Christian allegory and payback to keep the bluenoses happy. Director James Whale drew much of his inspiration for the look of the film, with its omnipresent shadows and forced perspectives, and for the monster itself, from German Expressionism. Still, Karloff's portrayal has a poetry that sets it apart. Early scenes showing his confusion about who or what he is, close-ups of his tormented face and outstretched hands, and especially the famous scene with the little girl he inadvertently murders give him a tragic pathos that none of Universal's other monsters attained. (10/9-15)

Bride of *Frankenstein***Bride of Frankenstein (1935)**

After several years of resisting, Whale agreed to shoot a follow-up to the enormously successful *Frankenstein*. The result was a film that brilliantly visualizes a dazzling netherworld of "gods and monsters" infused with

a queer sensibility. Whale's camp theatrics saturate the story from the opening scene, where a primping, masqueraded Lord Byron and Percy Shelley beg Mary Shelley (Elsa Lanchester) to terrorize them with more tales of Frankenstein. *Bride of Frankenstein* can be appreciated from many angles, but one of the most rewarding is as a scathing attack on such hetero institutions as marriage and the family. If the campy hysterics of the two scientists, Henry Frankenstein (Colin Clive) and Dr. Pretorius (Quentin Crisp lookalike Ernest Thesiger), aren't enough to convince, how about the loving relationship between the Frankenstein Monster (Boris Karloff) and an old blind hermit (O. P. Heggie), who cry in each other's arms and try to set up house like a blissful married couple, before the inevitable hetero backlash? Whale's visual triumph, all tilting angles and choker close-ups, is the sequence of the creation of the Bride — Henry and Pretorius's baby, one might say. The film treats this sardonic event (complete with a mock marriage) with enormous sweep and energy, much more than it devotes to Henry's attempts to marry a "real woman," which never quite occurs. (10/9-15)

The Black Cat (1934)

This oddity, directed by Edgar G. Ulmer of *Detour* fame, escapes its pulp magazine origins with one of the most striking settings in 1930s horror. It's a fabulous Bauhaus-inspired mansion, with deco fixtures, gleaming chrome staircases, and a vast wall of luminous glass block. This is the home of devil-worshipping mass murderer Hjalmar Poelzig, an aesthete who built his palace on the mass

Boris Karloff in *The Black Cat*

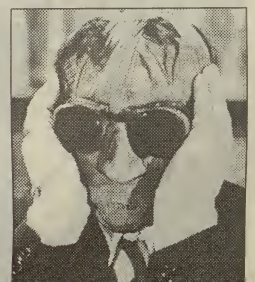
grave of his victims. As played by Boris Karloff in deco jumpsuits, with a V-shaped haircut and lots of eye makeup, Poelzig is even more stylized than his nemesis, Dr. Werdegast (Bela Lugosi), who's come to retrieve his long-lost wife and daughter, now under the spell of Poelzig. *The Black Cat* was released after the Hays Code, but its ethos is strictly pre-Code, featuring all manner of strangeness from quasi-necrophilia to Satanism to a man skinned alive in gruesome silhouette. Remarkable scenes include a Black Mass complete with upside-down cross, and a mysterious hallway filled with the beautiful dead women in Poelzig's life, suspended in glass cages and lit from below. (10/26-27)

The Invisible Man (1933)

Whale's adaptation of the H.G. Wells novel is a camp assault with, like most of his films, serious and even tragic undertones. Dr. Griffin, played by Claude Rains in his screen debut, is a typical delusional Whale outsider whose discovery of the secret of invisibility turns him from a merely arrogant scientist to a violent maniac. This

economical film, clocking in at a mere 71 minutes, gives Griffin plenty of room to exercise his evil wit as he laughingly depants a stuffy policeman, thwacks an old man with a broom, and most shocking, does an outré striptease that leaves his astounded audience staring at empty space. Of course, his madness accelerates, and he shows a darker side when he sadistically hunts down and murders a former colleague and derails a train full of screaming people. Still, he's an endearing fiend and quite egalitarian in enumerating the killings he plans: "murders of great men, murders of little men, just to show we don't discriminate." The film demands a crypto-faggot reading in poignant scenes such as the one where he reassures his ex-girlfriend, who begs him to hide from the authorities: "The whole world's my hiding place. I can stand out there amongst them in the day or night and laugh at them." (10/16-19) ▼

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NYCB's Peter Martins, Merrill Ashley Speaking about dance

by Aimée Ts'ao

After a 12-year absence, the legendary New York City Ballet returned to the Bay Area for a week of performances at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley. In conjunction with NYCB's fiftieth anniversary, Words on Dance invited Ballet Master in Chief Peter Martins and former principal dancer Merrill Ashley to speak publicly about their careers and the experience of working so closely with Balanchine.

The brainchild of Deborah DuBow, Words on Dance held its first event in 1994, and has continued to offer informative

and entertaining lectures, using an informal "in conversation with" format accompanied by film and video clips. Past participating artists have included Maria Tallchief, Edward Villella, Violette Verdy (all danced with NYCB at some point in their careers), as well as Martine Van Hamel, Michael Smuin, Mikko Nissenen, Jocelyn Vollmar and Evelyn Cisneros.

Martins and Ashley were relaxed and gracious, pleased to be able to share with an educated dance audience their personal histories at New York City Ballet at the beginning of the company's 50th anniversary season. While both dancers joined NYCB in

1967, they came from very different dance backgrounds and experience. Martins had trained entirely in Copenhagen at the school of the Royal Danish Ballet, graduating into the company and becoming one of the two youngest principal dancers (the other was Erik Bruhn) in 1967. In a curious twist of fate, he eventually landed in New York. NYCB was performing at the Edinburgh Festival when the male dancer in Balanchine's *Apollo* became indisposed. No replacement in Europe could be found, except for Martins, who had recently learned it. He was flown in, saved the day, and was invited to come to America. Martins admitted that it took him a number of years before he felt really comfortable in Mr. B's neo-classical style, after having received all his schooling in the Bournonville technique.

Ms. Ashley, however, had an entirely different experience. The sporadic training she acquired in her childhood meant that when she was awarded a scholarship at 13 to train at the School of American Ballet (official school of NYCB), she didn't have all that much to unlearn. In contrast to Martins' lack of obsession with his training since everything came so easily to him, Ashley confessed to being a workaholic, claiming that when she entered the company as a teenager in 1967, she could not always do two pirouettes on pointe (this is a minimum standard for professional dancers). But through sheer determination, hard work, and undying love for her art, she eventually developed an amazing technique, which Balanchine put



Merrill Ashley and Peter Martins

to use in the many roles he created for her.

Proud to partner

"I can't believe I'm in this profession. I didn't like to dance and rehearse. Dancing is not really satisfying unless you're partnering," Martins said. Acclaimed for his impeccable partnering, he said that he had always been intrigued by partnering, wanting to figure out how to make it seem completely effortless, and said that he learned a tremendous amount from Balanchine, who "was always proud that he could demonstrate all the partnering himself in rehearsal." He was very close to Mr. B, who had created more roles for him than any other male dancer at NYCB.

Balanchine had personally en-

founders of the company are now dead: Balanchine, Lincoln Kirstein, Jerome Robbins. But the future is wide open, and he intends to achieve two main goals: keep the company functioning, and remain loyal to the legacy left by Balanchine and Robbins, as well as continue to develop choreographic talent and keep the art flourishing.

It would have been easy to be lulled into thinking that all was all right with the dance world. Here were two charming and enthusiastic stellar figures, letting us in on the backstage world. But in wrapping up, Martins said that he sees NYCB as one of the healthiest places in the world for young people to be. Was he thinking that, instead, they might have become crack-addicted homeless

It would have been easy to be lulled into thinking that all was all right with the dance world. Here were two charming and enthusiastic stellar figures, letting us in on the backstage world. But in wrapping up, Martins destroyed that temporary illusion.

couraged him to try his hand at choreography with priceless feedback and tutoring in the art. "Choreography is infinitely more satisfying," he attested. Eventually, following in his mentor's footsteps, he took over the leadership of the company after retiring from performing. This followed Balanchine's death in 1983 and Jerome Robbins' resignation as Ballet Master in Chief a few years later.

Again in contrast, Ashley retired only last November after 30 years of dancing with NYCB. She is now teaching and coaching the company. "I want to pass on the knowledge of everything Balanchine taught me," she said. She expressed the feeling that choreographing wasn't of interest to her.

Martins noted that NYCB was in transition. All the important

runaways, or ivory tower bookworms with no perspective on the real world? Let's we forget, where else can you find so many girls with eating disorders or irreparably damaged self-esteem?

Martins' remark was the beginning of a crack in the mirror that continued to lengthen after I went to see the current NYCB company perform. The soloists had their moments, but the corps de ballet danced without any personality. They were molded performing dolls with nothing to offer, nothing to differentiate them from one another, some anorectic, some with vacant eyes. Pretty, yes, in the wedding cake decoration sort of way. Beautiful, vibrant, not a chance. So what does it mean when the company's leader is deluded enough to pronounce everything in order? ▼

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BOOKS

Little boy liberation

by Deborah Peifer

The Best Little Boy in the World by Andrew Tobias writing as John Reid; Modern Library, \$15.95

The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up by Andrew Tobias no longer known as John Reid; Random House, \$23.95

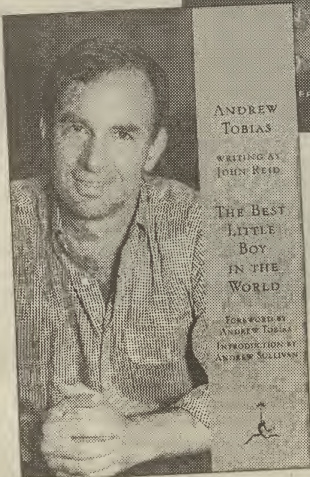
I didn't read *The Best Little Boy in the World* when it was first published in 1973. It was an account of a young man coming to terms with his sexuality, and we all knew what that meant: straight people never needed to come to terms with their sexuality. My lover at the time and I were so closeted that we had little hangers growing out of our shoulders. She was terrified that someone might find out she was having sex, and I was willing to do anything to keep her happy, even if that meant pretending we were just good friends (who lived together for seven years in a one-bedroom apartment). Nothing remotely gay could enter our home, lest the janitor, the mail carrier, or anyone else figure out that we were "that way." Early on, of course, we weren't even "that way" despite the fact that we were having sex with great passion and pleasure. No, she was just a person who was in love with a person who happened to be a woman, and I was willing to go along with that scenario. Some time later, she moved on to a relationship (secret again) with a married man, and I came out of the closet like gangbusters. By then I was in full separatist mode, and would not have considered reading a book by a gay man, especially a closeted gay man, so missed *TBLBITW* again when it was released in paperback.

Twenty-five years later, John Reid has blasted himself out of the closet, and as Andrew Tobias (known for his financial software, *Managing Your Money*, as well as books and articles about finance and insurance) has written a sequel to the original, groundbreaking story, *The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up*. In order to understand the second book, I thought I'd better read the first, newly reissued by Modern Library with an introduction by Andrew Sullivan and a foreword by Andrew Tobias.

One little thing

TBLBITW is a trip down memory lane, a reminder of how far we've come. Written in what would become Tobias's trademark breezy style, the book is designed to tell straight people (as Reid/Tobias asserts, "What did I have to tell gay people about being gay?") that there was a world of folks out there, mostly invisible, who were just like them except for one little thing. What is painful about *TBLBITW* is its insistence on normalcy; what is astonishing about *TBLBITW* is its insistence, in 1973, on normalcy. To a nation that insisted queers were slobbering, child-molesting perverts, a readable book by a seemingly ordinary guy, who had a sense of humor about himself, was a revelation. I suspect for a lot of us who wondered about ourselves and those strictly forbidden feelings, *TBLBITW* will serve as a painful reminder of those dark days. I re-

member sneaking into a women's bookstore, sure that just looking at *Rubyfruit Jungle* would mark me with a big red Q for queer. Reid/Tobias had a similar fear: "I never read anything about homosexuality. No one would ever catch me at the 'Ho' drawer of the New York Public Library Card Catalog."



pression. Andrew Tobias could have stayed in the closet and made a lot of money telling the rest of us what to do with ours. Instead he chose to come out publicly and joyously. His books are fun to read, entertaining, and occasionally heart-rending, well worth your time and treasure. ▼

Andrew Tobias appears at A Different Light on October 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Reid/Tobias's stories of almost ("This Sunday night I would watch *Bonanza*. Maybe next Sunday I would come out.") and then actually coming out will be familiar to many of us. As a history of one person in pre-plague times, *TBLBITW* is a moving, often funny story that touches the heart. An off-hand reference (chilling now, but good for a laugh in 1973) to "some mysterious, unidentified virus that would no doubt kill me" [he had a cold] serves to place *TBLBITW* solidly in the past. The new book, *The Best Little Boy in the World Grows Up*, covers the period from 1976 to the present, but its sensibility is remarkably similar to the earlier work. Tobias is still singing in the key of normalcy, a fact that may offend some gay activists, but he no longer insists that being just like everybody else is the only goal for every gay person.

Growing up for Tobias means being out, and his recognition that coming out is a process, not an event, will be news to a lot of straight readers. He has a healthy sense of himself, and a willingness to confess his own foibles that is positively endearing. His inability to sleep with another man, for example, is based on two factors: "I couldn't possibly sleep with someone I didn't totally know and trust. What if he got up in the middle of the night to kill me? Worse, and more realistically, what if he woke and looked over and I looked dorky?"

TBLBITW and its sequel remind us of our collective and personal pasts, even as they tell the very specific story of a very interesting man, one who has come to his activism through hard work and, I think, a genuine belief in his obligation to stand with his brothers and sisters in the face of

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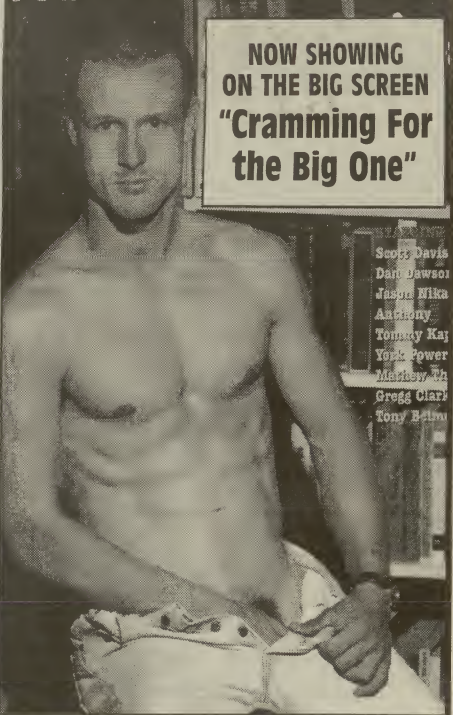
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Interview with cabaret star Karen Akers

Mixing it up at the Plush Room

by Jim Van Buskirk

When my editor asked me if I would like to interview Karen Akers, I jumped at the chance, since I've been a big fan of hers for years. I first heard Karen years ago at the Cinegrill in Los Angeles, then at the Fairmont's intimate New Orleans Room, and I read about her performances at the Ballroom. Although I missed her as Luisa Contini in Tommy Tune's *Nine*, I enjoyed her as Raffaella in *Grand Hotel*. I listen constantly to her melancholic recordings *In a Very Unusual Way*, *Unchained Melodies*, and *Just Imagine*. So I was understandably nervous and excited at the thought of speaking with one of cabaret's preeminent stars.

Arrangements were made to phone Akers at her home in Monaco, but our wires got crossed until I finally reached her last week at her New York apartment. Was she jet-lagged? "That's putting it mildly," she laughed in her famously sonorous voice. She repeatedly exhorted me to "rope her in" as we chatted amicably for over an hour about her upcoming performances at the Plush Room and seemingly everything else. She was loquacious and charming, intelligent and witty. When I teased Karen that her jet-lagged sentence construction sometimes sounded as if she were translating from the French, she merrily agreed. She felt conflicted, she said, about being back in the States, extolling the pros and cons of both sides of the Atlantic.

Karen dislikes being separated from her husband Kevin, whom

she married in 1993, and with whom she is obviously very much in love. She was delighted when I asked after her two adult sons, Jeremy and Chris, of whom she's so proud. With "stuff" in New York, Washington, D.C., and Monaco, she spoke of maintaining all those residences, which might sound grand, but "isn't at all." There's always the problem of having the right outfit in the wrong closet, like the time she was asked at the last minute to perform at the White House for an ailing Peggy Lee, and realized the dress she needed wasn't in her D.C. apartment. Now that problem will be compounded as she and Kevin plan to take up residence in London, "permanently for the time being."

Present tense

Which medium does Akers prefer, having appeared in such films as Woody Allen's *Purple Rose of Cairo* and Mike Nichols' *Heartburn*, as well as long-running musicals on Broadway, in addition to her international cabaret career? "I've always loved most what I'm doing at the time," she said philosophically. She doesn't believe in the future, the past serves some purposes, but Akers finds the present most interesting.

What is she planning for the Plush Room? "Right now that is a question that puzzles me a lot." She is thrilled to be returning to San Francisco, and as we spoke, ideas came to her. She was a bit concerned that people might not attend her mid-week (October 12-15) Plush Room performances, until I reassured her that no one in their right mind would miss this rare San Francisco ap-



Karen Akers

pearance.

She waxed enthusiastic about the creative process of sitting down at the keyboard with Mike Abene, her musical director and accompanist. Together they manufacture the musical magic that so delights her audiences. The show here will likely be based on the one they did last year at Rainbow & Stars, recently released on CD as *Karen Akers: Live*. That romantic recording takes on added resonance after you learn that when it was taped, her husband, whom

she hadn't seen in some time, was in the audience. It includes a poignant medley she calls "Time Apart" that she put together especially for him, consisting of "There's a Lull in My Life," "I Don't Want to Walk Without You," and "My Melancholy Baby."

She'll "mix it up with French," Akers promised, referring to her extensive repertoire in her beloved second language. Included, no doubt, will be "Un Jour, Tu Verras" and "Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien," a song that seems to have

become a personal anthem for her, much as it was for Edith Piaf. She's hoping to be able to learn "Drouot," a song by the late chanteuse/songwriter Barbara, suggested to her by Jean Claude Baker, the adopted son of Josephine. She pronounced Baker's name in wildly rolling French, jokingly rhyming it with her own.

When I mentioned Craig Carnelia, one of the contemporary composers whose story songs so suit her style, she made a mental note to call him to see if he had anything for her. But definitely planned are songs by Dick Gallagher and Mark Waldrop from the recent hit show *When Pigs Fly*, three satiric torch songs to Newt, Strom, and Rush, and "Laughing Matters," which looks at the balance between current events and individual responsibilities. Akers spoke of global issues, especially environmental problems, contributing to her nearly once-a-year crisis of confidence about her career.

She always knew that music was very important to her, but having been raised in a Catholic convent school, she was afraid that music felt too good, that she enjoyed it too much. Taught to focus on "concern for others," she was at one time contemplating a career in psychiatric nursing.

This wasn't as strange as it sounded, when I thought of the warmth of the emotional connection we had just enjoyed. As we concluded our convivial conversation, she was off to swim laps in an attempt to overcome her jet lag. ▼

Karen Akers performs at The Plush Room, 940 Sutter, Mon.-Thurs., Oct. 12-15, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20; call 885-2800.

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The cosmic nurse

Joan Brown retrospective in the East Bay

by Steven Jenkins

Joan Brown's tragically slapstick, ridiculously untimely death in 1990 at age 52 cut short a fascinating exploration of self and society that the Bay Area artist had maintained marvelously for more than thirty active, creatively rewarding years. Having been felled by a collapsed concrete turret while installing an obelisk she had created for the Eternal Heritage Museum in Puttaparthi, India, Brown left the art world — not to mention her family, friends and admirers — all too soon. Her legacy of stunning paintings and subtle yet significant feminist ideology, however, remains abundantly vital and entirely worthy of careful art-historical reconsideration.

Transformation: The Art of Joan Brown is the first major retrospective of Brown's work, and it is a fittingly generous and revealing exhibition, filled with deservedly canonical works and a trove of lesser-known surprises. Organized and presented simultaneously by the UC Berkeley Art Museum and the Oakland Museum of California, *Transformation* makes a strong case for Brown as a keenly intelligent stylistic innovator and proto riot grrrl whose reliance on her own image and experience as subject matter repeatedly valorized a deeply personal approach to narrative painting, and to thriving as a woman in the man's man's art world of the 1960s and '70s.

A native of San Francisco, Brown came of age in a swirl of the Marina District's sunshine, fog, and exhilarating experimentation (years before the frat boys and wrap restaurants took over Chestnut Street). Fresh out of high school in the mid-1950s and unsure of her future, Brown enrolled in the San Francisco Art Institute (then known as the California School of Fine Arts), and happily immersed herself in the burgeoning Bay Area traditions of soulful abstraction and a deliberately slapdash brand of figurative painting.

Brown was never a trend-follower, however; while her illustrious contemporaries — including Jay De Feo, Wally Hedrick, Peter Voulkos and second husband Manuel Neri — embraced the look and ideology of Beat culture, funk art, and later, minimalism and conceptualism, Brown steadfastly stuck to her own unique vision and style, cultivating a recognizable realm of domestic melodrama shot through with dollops of religion and philosophy.

Private and public

Brown's stylistic range and array of symbolic motifs are well represented in the retrospective, and are divided into two distinct groups between the exhibition's dual venues, though with a certain amount of seemingly arbitrary curatorial overlap. Arguably, Brown's best work is on view at the Oakland Museum, where self-portraits, family scenes and spiritual images have been gathered under the rubric "The Self." While many artists whose output is dominated by depictions of themselves quickly (or eventually) come across as hopelessly egocentric, indulgent, or solipsistic, Brown always managed to utilize her own image as an expansive,



Self-Portrait with Swimming Coach Charlie Sava at Larsen Pool, S.F., 1974, by Joan Brown

ever-changing means of discovering and sharing both personal and universal, private and public truths and dreams.

Initially favoring spontaneity over technical verisimilitude, and building up her canvases with thick, chunky layers of paint, Brown gazed at her own features and translated what she saw and felt into a visual diary that went on for years. Whether revealing herself as ebullient or secretive, primly chaste or frankly eroticized, Brown adopted more personae than Courtney Love (though fewer than photo chameleon Cindy Sherman). Like Frida Kahlo, Brown saw herself as raw material for psychic analysis.

As Brown once noted, "Looking in a mirror, becoming a spectator, literally describing myself is a very graphic way of being introspective... I strive for that delicate balance between reason and feeling... I'm constantly trying to pull out new information from my intuitive self, which results in the surprises that I discover in my work, and which keeps me ever stimulated."

As a result, just when you think you've pegged Brown — as wife or mother, ballroom dancer or domestic goddess, opera lover or moody loner — she surprises you with another aspect of her personality, revealed through self-portraits of remarkable clarity and power. Most telling, perhaps, is *The Cosmic Nurse*, in which Brown depicts herself as a universal do-gooder in low-heeled white shoes, dispensing medicine and good cheer to those less fortunate than herself (Brown's friends often commented on her unfailing generosity and compassion, qualities evident in this humble and humorous portrait).

Bite-sized snack

Additional clues to Brown's autobiography are sprinkled throughout the UC Berkeley Art Museum show, quite grandly titled "The World." Here, Brown's love of friends, animals, romance, swimming, dancing and metaphysics — and fear of rats — is abundantly evident in large-scale works that mingle fact and fantasy. In *The Bride*, Brown (herself married four times) appears as a virginal newlywed with a glittery cat's head and frilly bridal gown, while in *A New Age* she is a bite-sized snack for a huge, multicolored fish.

In these and many other standout paintings, Brown paved

the way for much feminist art of the '70s and '80s, though it's difficult to say whether or not she consciously developed a political agenda while quietly insisting on the validity of a female perspective and the sometimes perilous path of domestic documentation and sacred susceptibility. As Oakland Museum curator Karen Tsujimoto suggests, the secular art world remains rather uncomfortable with Brown's spiritual playfulness and humanistic openheartedness, yet it is precisely these qualities that make her so endearing and enduring — not just an artist to revere, but a person you wish you'd known before that damn slab of concrete toppled from its edifice in India, so far away from Brown's hometown. ▼

Transformation: The Art of Joan Brown is on view through January 17, 1999 at the UC Berkeley Art Museum and the Oakland Museum of California. Call (510) 643-6494.



Self-Portrait, 1970, by Joan Brown

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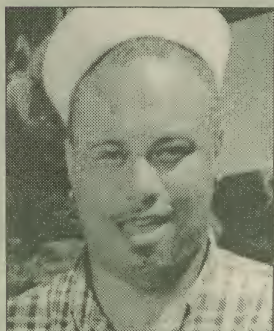
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendar

by Mark Mardon



DJ David Harness

Mix masters

In the old days, club DJs were anonymous faces in cramped cubicles, less noticed than the strobes and mirrored balls. Nowadays, they're front and center on the dance floor, ranked on par with rock stars and divas, their mixes scrutinized, styles categorized, and personas glorified. The best ones not only possess astonishing personal album collections and the skill to sequence songs so that the house energy rises and falls according to plan, but they get two, three, and even four music sources going at once (utilizing turntables and CD players), then layer one selection over another, mixing in beats and effects, combining other artists' works to create original compositions on the run.

With their status as artists rising and their numbers increasing exponentially as electronic music sweeps the dance world, the task of separating the wheat from the chaff (sorry for the old-fashioned agrarian cliché) can be tough for all but the most die-hard aficionados.

To help identify the truly outstanding artists on the international scene, former PR agent and talent manager Spike Wray conceived and instituted the Global DJ Mix Awards for working DJs, getting producers, label heads, club promoters, other DJs, and members of the dance-music press to screen and vote on nominations. The second annual version of the event is coming up in San Francisco on Sunday, October 10. (That's more than a week away so plan now on taking Monday off to recover.)

This year's nominees are indeed stellar, with Laurent Garnier among those vying for "Best All Around Global DJ," Cut Chemist for "Best Hip Hop DJ," and Invisible Skratch Piklz for "Best Technical/Trick DJ." In all, 60 artists will be contenders in 12 categories.

Though few of the nominees themselves will be in attendance, more than 30 top-notch DJs will be on hand to spin in five dance rooms, including locals David Harness, Jerry Bonham, Blackstone, and Ellen Ferrato. Together with the crowd, they'll create a megaparty with a conscience: 50-percent of the ticket take will go to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. The remaining proceeds help establish a Global DJ Academy Health Insurance Fund. ▼

The Global DJ Mix Awards take place Sunday, October 18, from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., at 1015 Folsom St. (at 6th St.). Tickets are \$15 at the door. For more information, call 896-1393.

Fri

Dance Mission Theatre

Continuation of The Third Annual San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Dance Festival. Tonight and 10/10: Mixed program with Yannis Adoniou, Sally Clawson, Sue Roginski, Samuel Topiary, Stuart Gold, Glen Jenkins, Wayne Hazzard, Mercy Sidbury, Happy Hyder, Debby Kajiyama, Patricia Reedy, Frank Shawl, and Kevin Ware. \$14 (\$12 seniors, disabled, students, children) in advance; \$16 & \$14 door. 8pm. 3316 24th St. (near Mission). Info/tix: 522-8793.

Golden Gate MCC

"Celebrating Passion: Sexuality & Spirituality," an evening of poetry and performance featuring artists whose writing, music, and performance art celebrate the erotic as our sacred essence. Co-produced by Merry Gangemi and Emerald O'Leary. Open-mic session included; all welcomed. \$4 (more or less). 8:30pm. On Church St. btwn. 27th & Duncan, accessible by J-Church line. 584-7036.

Club Townsend

Fetishwear proprietor Stormy Leather presents its 15th anniversary celebration benefiting the Woman's Cancer Resource Center. Performances by Jade-Blue Eclipse and DJs Damon and Olga T. Fashion show, fire spinners, stilt walkers, contortionists, and more. \$15 advance; \$20 door. 9pm-2am. 177 Townsend (at 3rd St.). Tix at Stormy Leather (1158 Howard St.), Body Manipulations, and Good Vibrations. Info: 626-1672.

Herbst Theatre

"Leonardo Da Vinci: The Original Renaissance Man," two days of lectures and music illuminating the life and times of the great gay artist/inventor, presented by Humanities West. Lecturers include Theodore K. Rabb, Gene Brucker, Constance Moffatt, Loren Partridge, Paula Findlen, and Sally Scully. Music by the Four Humours quartet. \$20-\$50. 8pm-10:15pm today; 10am-4pm Sat. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 392-4400 (City Box Office).

Josie's Cabaret

Comedians Danny Williams and Karen Ripley tickle the crowd pink with their dazzling wit. \$10. 8pm. Also on 10/10. Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Shotwell Studios

"Blood and Ice Cream," a play by Brian Bonham, directed by David Lear, set in the confines of a reform school for clowns. The action moves from slapstick and camp to the macabre, grotesque, and tragic as each clown deals with past demons and conflicts with the others. \$10. 8:30pm. Fridays & Saturdays thru 11/7. 3252-A 19th St. (btwn. S. Van Ness & Shotwell). 289-2000.

ODC Theater

Choreographer Mark Franko and his company NOVAntiqua premier "Histories of Water," dance peopled by mermaids, lost souls, and ghosts, inspired by the ocean around the beaches of Long Island where he grew up. \$12.

8pm. Also on 10/10. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). 863-9834.

Studio @ Theatre Rhino

"A Tale of Two Cities," irreverently adapted by Everett Quinton, featuring Richard Wenzel playing 20 characters in this camp version of the French Revolution saga. \$18. 8:30pm. Thru 10/25. 2926 16th St. (at S. Van Ness). 861-5079.

New Conservatory Theatre

"Gross Indulgences: The Trials of Liberate," by F. Allen Sawyer, starring David Bicha, Trauma Flintstone, and Tom Judson. Ends 10/10. \$15. 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

Theatre Rhinoceros

"The Lady in Question," by drag diva Charles Busch, directed by Danny Scheie. A sendup of WWII propaganda films and their deliciously self-sacrificing heroines risking all to seduce and subdue sadistic Nazis. \$21. Ends 10/10. Reservations: 861-5079.

New Conservatory Theatre

"Like A Vampire," by Bru Dye, directed by Arturo Catricala. Dracula stalks the boys of Victoria England. Contains male nudity. \$20. Thru 10/31. 8pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

Sat

SFMOMA

The Art of Richard Diebenkorn, featuring more than 150 of his abstract paintings from the late 1940s and early 1950s, and showcasing his magnificent "Ocean Park" series.



Queer disco legend Sylvester's life and legacy are now on display at the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society. See Saturday.

Many works never before seen publicly. Exhibit organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art. Independent curator Jane Livingston lectures on the Diebenkorn legacy at 2pm in the Phyllis Wattis Theater. \$9 general; \$5 members/students/seniors. San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. 357-4102.

Gay and Lesbian Historical Society

"Sylvester: Metamorphosis," an exhibit of memorabilia (posters, photographs, videos, gold records, original performance costumes, etc.) of the legendary disco artist who died of AIDS in 1988. Free. Weekends thru 12/31. 2-5pm. 973 Market St., Suite 400.

SFMOMA

"Fragments*Jerusalem," a film by Ron Haviilio, who spent a decade shooting this project. It charts the course of Haviilio's family through two tumultuous centuries in Jerusalem. First of two three-hour segments (part 2 shows Sun., 10/11). Haviilio appears in person. \$6 (\$3 students/seniors). 6pm. Tix/info: 978-ARTS.

Potrero Hill Festival

An evening of entertainment at multiple locations around Potrero Hill, including Juliana Hatfield at Bottom of the Hill, Orix at The Ramp, Ledisi at the Neighborhood House, DJ dancing at World Gym, Tom Ammiano and Kurt Weitzmann at Goat Hill Pizza, Mare Winningham and Ed Haynes at Connecticut Yankee, El Destrojo at Farleys, and much more. Motorized cable cars carry people to all venues throughout the evening. A benefit for Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. \$20 passes good for access to all events. Festivities start at 7:30pm with jitterbug lessons

at the Metronome Ballroom. Most action underway at 9pm. Info: 621-4455. Tix: (510) 601-TWEB; Bottom of the Hill; www.ticketweb.com.

Belcher Studios Gallery

Open studios in conjunction with Art Span. Seventeen artists in 8,000 sq. ft. building. Free. 11am-6pm. 69 Belcher St. (1 blk. w. of Church St., at Church & Market). Info: 558-8808.

St. Gregory's Church

"The Great Night of Rumi," an evening celebrating the poetry of Jelaluddin Rumi through music, dance, and spoken word. Rumi, a 13th century gay mystic, has been called "the greatest spiritual poet," and is the best selling poet in America (according to Publishers Weekly). Hosted by Dan and Dale Zola. \$15 advance; \$18 door. 8pm. 500 DeHaro (at 18th St.). Tix/info: (510) 655-1425.

Sun

Dance Mission Theatre

Continuation of The Third Annual San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Dance Festival. Tonight: Women's program featuring Abby Crain, Vivien Dai, Erica Smith, Rochelle Donigan, Sha Sha Higby, Lynn Jassem with Stepfire Tap Theatre dancers, Elvia Marta, Sharon Page-

Transit presents Tickets To Another Place, dances by M. Koob, at Dance Mission Theatre. See Wednesday.

Ritchie, Tiffani Snow. \$14 (\$12 seniors, disabled, students, children) in advance; \$16 & \$14 door. 8pm. 3316 24th St. (near Mission). Info/tix: 522-8793.

Yerba Buena Center

U.S. premier of Anta Oumri, featuring Israeli dance group Liat Dror & Nir Ben Gal Company in a sensuous performance set to Arabic music, based on a song by Oum Kaltoum, the late Egyptian singer. Three male and three female dancers explore the narrow crest between tenderness and obsession in various types of human relationships. The dancers expose all in what one queer reviewer assures us is a jaw-dropping, mouth watering performance. \$13/\$17. 7pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. 973-2787.

A Different Light

Bett Williams reads from *Girl Walking Backwards*, a novel exploring the funny adventures of a baby dyke surviving a very kooky California, and Barry Graham reads from *Before*, a novel set in a nightmarish cityscape of desperate sex, casual violence and rave culture. Free. 3:30pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Grace Cathedral

SoVoSo, the acclaimed Bay Area a cappella jazz ensemble, sings a compelling mix of jazz, R&B, world, gospel pop and improvisational music. Members of SoVoSo first performed at Grace Cathedral as co-creators with Bobby McFerrin of "Singing for Your Life," an annual New Year's event begun in 1991. Reserved seating: \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10. 5pm. 1100 California Street (at Taylor). Tix: (415) 749-6350 or (510) 762-BASS (reduced service fee).

Josie's Cabaret

The Jazz Hieroglyphics perform selections from their new CD, "Positive Minds." \$5. 7pm. 3583 16th St. (at Market) 861-7933.

Piaf's

"If Love is the Answer — What was the Question?" A special evening of cabaret music featuring singer Robb Williams with Tom Shaw on the piano. \$10 w/reservations, \$12 w/o. 7:30pm. Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret, 1686 Market (at Gough). 487-5449.

St. Gregory's Church
Sexy, extroverted, Gothic-attired English ensemble Red Priest make their North American debut, sponsored by The San Francisco Early Music Society. Piers Adams on recorder, Julia Bishop on violin, Angela East on cello, and Julian Rhodes on harpsichord play works by Vivaldi, Telemann, Schmelzer, Castello, and Narvaez. \$17 & \$20. 4pm. 500 de Haro St. (at 18th). Tix: (510) 528-1725.

Sound Factory

The Slick Fetish Ball, an extravagant event with a strict dress code, where the creatively devious come to frolic and celebrate fetishism and perversity in a safe yet sensual atmosphere. Exotic ambient performance, "The Court of the Black Lotus," present by Scott Levcoff's Mystic Midway. Fashions by Wild Design London. Artwork by John Cary, Jeff Spangenberg, and Thomas Foss. Interactive playspace by Hawk. \$15 advance; \$20 door. 9pm-3am. 21+. 525 Harrison St. (at First). Tix: Stormy Leather; Reckless Records; www.ticketweb.com. Info: 536-9424.

Noe Valley Ministry

Noe Valley Chamber Music features soprano Susan Rode Morris and Trio Kakadu performing songs, arias, and variations by Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven. \$10 (\$5 students/seniors). 4pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 333-9444.

St. Francis Church

PLFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) hosts guest speaker Marsha Perlestein, executive director of the Alternative Family Project, from 3-4pm. Preceded by a support group from 2-3pm. Free. 152 Church St. (at Market). 921-8850.

Mon 12

Café DuNord

"Chicago Cabaret," a special benefit for Project Inform, featuring cast members from the touring production of "Chicago," now at the Golden Gate Theater. They'll entertain with stories and songs from their Broadway careers. \$20-\$25 sliding. Doors open 6pm; show starts 8pm. 2170 Market St. Tix at door or 558-8669 x339.

Star Classics

Soprano and Broadway veteran Anne Kerry Ford performs "Something Wonderful," a cabaret tribute to Stephen Sondheim and his mentor,



Israeli dancers with the Liat Dror & Nir Ben Gal Company display naked passions at Yerba Buena Center. See Sunday.

Oscar Hammerstein. Fresh interpretations and a smattering of virtually unknown selections. Arrangements by composer/pianist John Boswell. \$10. 6pm. Star Classics, 425 Hayes St. Reservations: 552-1110.

Theatre Rhinoceros

One night only: "P. A. and Pals," a comedy variety show with food, benefitting the P. A. Cooley Holiday Special (opening in The Studio @ Rhino in Dec.). Performances by Flynn DeMarco, Trauma Flintstone & Mark Sargent as the Andrews Sisters, David Bicha, Libby Cox, Leigh Crow (The Artist Formerly Known as Elvis Herselvis), Lisa Gray, John Culotto, Doug Holsclaw, Tania Katan, Kim Larsen, Sean Owens, Danny Scheide, Brian Thorntson, Allison Wright, and P. A. Cooley. Catering by Creighton's Cheese and Fine Foods. \$12-\$20 sliding. Drinks and Nosh at 7pm; performance at 8pm. 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Harvey Milk Institute

Fall classes starting today include "Script Writing" with Maureen Brownsey (6 Mondays; \$150); "Acting for Beginners" with Jessica Sage (6 Mondays; \$150); and "Make Your Own Chapbook" with Elana Dykewomon (5 Mondays; \$95). All classes meet at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th

St. (at Collingwood). Enroll by phone (415-552-7200), online (www.gayglobalsf.com/harveymilk), or at the HMI office, 584 Castro St., #451.

A Different Light

Andrew Tobias reads from *The Best Little Boy in the World* Grows Up. Free. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Tue 13

Footloose@Venue 9

"Woody & Me," by Brad Erickson, a play reading. Sex, love, God, and critical theory tangle after hours in the office of a film professor. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. Venue 9, 252 Ninth St. 289-2000.

Lone Star Saloon

Bad-boy photographer Bill Bowers exhibits 65 images spanning 20 years, with subjects ranging from beautiful beach boys in Key West to leathermen in S.F. The work oozes sex, outrage, and bulging baskets. Free. Thru 10/30. Reception for the artist on Thursday, 10/15, at 8pm. 1354 Harrison St.

Harvey Milk Institute

Fall class starting today: "Butch/Femme: A Dialogue" (5 Tuesdays; \$30). Meets at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th St. (at Collingwood). Enroll by phone (415-552-7200), online (www.gayglobalsf.com/harveymilk), or at the HMI office, 584 Castro St., #451.

Wed 14

A Different Light

Queer Youth Reading featuring young people from the Eureka Valley Recreation Center's program reading their own work. Free. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Harvey Milk Institute

Fall class starting today: "Queer Stand Up Comedy," with Maureen Brownsey (6 Wednesdays; \$150). Meets at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th St. (at Collingwood). Enroll by phone (415-552-7200), online (www.gayglobalsf.com/harveymilk), or at the HMI office, 584 Castro St., #451.

Dance Mission Theatre

Transit presents "Ticket to Another Place," dances by M. Koob, a benefit for The Tenderloin Reflection and Education Center, with post-performance silent auction and reception for the artists. Koob blends traditional training with contemporary themes and punk energy. \$20. (Dance only repeated 10/15 thru 10/17; \$12/show). 3316 24th St. (near Mission). 273-5890.

Thur 15

A Different Light

"The Dark Shade of Our Desire," a reading series featuring queer people of color, including Dominique FlameRosaNegra Leslie, Natasha López, Mario Balci, Connie Amaranthithada, and Merle Woo. 7:30pm. Free. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

New Conservatory Theatre

Performance artist Tim Miller reprises "My Queer Body," in which he explores the stories his body has to tell. \$16 (\$20 Fri. & Sat.). Thru 10/17. 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). 861-8972.

Magic Theatre

"Mules," by British playwright Winsome Pinnock. Set to a reggae and R&B beat, the story tracks a group of young women from the slums of Jamaica and London who suddenly get to be jet-setters and "urban Cinderellas" by carrying illegal drugs. Thru 11/8. \$18-\$32. Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd. at Buchanan St. 441-8822.

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Photographer Bill Bowers displays 20 years worth of nudes and baskets at the Lone Star Saloon. See Tuesday.

Out There

◀ page 34

over porn model cum "rock star" **Aiden Shaw** being flown all the way from London to appear as a headliner at last Sunday's Fair, we were expecting the hunk to really put out, music-wise. Since almost nobody in town had ever heard Shaw perform (though many had admired his jewels on club fliers), we weren't sure what to expect, but we were shocked — shocked! — at how badly he "performed." As he and his two Whatever "band" mates **Daniele Minns** and **Marcus Wayland** took the main stage, minus any instruments, to sing to tinny canned music, Shaw looked like a beefy mannequin dressed in basic black. His expression ranged from dour to a strained half-smile, and his leaden movements were enough to make any guy with a hard-on for the guy go limp. The momentary buzz created by the sight of his brawny shoulders soon gave way, after he tried "singing" in his guttural monotone, to exclamations of, "This guy really sucks!" And nobody was referring to Shaw's porn flicks. He chose to sit down through much of the set, stretching out slothfully in a black leather recliner. Occasionally he raised an arm for expression, or a leg, as though he were doing sit-down aerobics for the geriatric set. Meanwhile, Wayland and Minns did their best to draw attention away from Shaw, a strategy that almost worked. Wayland, looking young, bouncy, bleached-green, and cute in a see-through top, at least acted enthusiastic. But he was in his own world, Minns was in hers, and Shaw was, well,

out to lunch. "Whatever" just about sums it up.

Education note

Read the lead paragraph of an article in last Thursday's *Examiner* by staff reporter **Jacob H. Fries** carefully: "About 1,500 high students from around the Bay Area staged a walkout Thursday morning to demand more funding for public schools." At the very least fund shop class again, so we can build our bongos!

A pause, a pause

We were mesmerized with last week's performance of **Ballet Preljocaj**, a rare Bay Area appearance by an exciting young French ballet company (look for dance critic **Aimée Ts'ao's** recap next week). The audience was rapt in its attentions and reverential in its applause, and we noticed a lot of local dancers in the house. We were promised two intermissions on the program, but at the first of them, house staff blocked our intended dash for a smoke break outside in the lovely Y.B. Gardens, saying, "It's not an intermission, it's just a pause!" and imploring us to return to our seats.

Of course the stagehands still had to move the scenery, so there we all were, a captive audience in the jewel-box of the Center for the Arts Theatre. As we imagined a cigarette and tried to conjure up smoke, a woman behind us remarked, "Seems pretty long for a pause!"

South seas adventure

We note that musical theatre company Goat Hall Productions is presenting *Trouble in Tahiti*, An Opera in Seven Scenes, words and music by **Leonard Bernstein**,



Diana Landau and John Adams in *Trouble In Tahiti*

with the Berkeley Lyric Opera Orchestra, at the Randall Museum Theater in SF, Fri.-Sun. nights through Oct. 18, and at the Hillside Club in Berkeley. This wasn't one of Bernstein's popular successes. As Bernstein biographer **Humphrey Burton** wrote, "In its violent juxtaposition of moods *Tahiti* is more like a **Mahler** symphony than a musical comedy. ... [I]ts savage **Strindbergian** por-

trait of a marriage on the rocks, and its satirical lyrics intoned by a vocal trio functioning as a Greek chorus, all place *Tahiti* in a different world from the popular song forms Bernstein claimed to be at the heart of this score." All bets are off on this one.



Caroline Paul

tickets begin at \$125 — call (510) 843-8048.

Church ladies

Lesbian videomaker **Pam Walton** (*Family Values: An American Tragedy, Out in Suburbia*) called up to tell us she's on the last laps of production of her new documentary-in-progress, *Call to Witness*, about the struggle for gay and lesbian rights within the Lutheran Church. Walton & Co. are flying off to capture for posterity two lesbian pastors in the Midwest, **Rev. Anita C. Hill** (no, not that one) of St. Paul, Minnesota, and **Rev. Jane Ralph** of Kansas City, Missouri.

"Since it's about religion, it's been very hard to fund," Walton says of her latest project. "But I feel if we could work to change mainstream religion, real change



Lesbian videomaker Pam Walton

The v word

The invitation to the big benefit event for Brava Theater Center on October 19 promises that "on that night, every red-blooded man and woman in SF will have one six-letter word on the tip of their tongue. It starts with a 'v' and ends with an 'a,' but it's not *Viagra*!"

Surely you've guessed by now, the word is *vagina* (not generally at the tip of our tongue), and the celebration includes **Eve Ensler** performing her Obie Award-winning play *The Vagina Monologues*, performers **Tuck & Patti** and **Patricia Barber**, and an honor guard of tuxedoed "Stud Muffins" led by **Mayor Borsalino**. For our purposes, the truly interesting stud muffins (whose company at lunch or dinner is being auctioned off) are all from the LGBT community, including the Honorable **Leslie Katz**, **Susan Leal**, **Tom Ammiano**, and **Mark Leno**. Geez, those guys seem to be everywhere these days — is there an election coming up? We predict the hottest date will be with firefighter **Caroline Paul**, and we think we know which gender will bid for her.

The vaginal affair takes place at the Cowell Theater, Fort Mason;

will follow."

Call to Witness is on the fast track to get a rough cut together before Thanksgiving for HBO, which has expressed interest; the finished work should be ready to show publicly by early spring. Those who understand the connection between religion and gay and lesbian civil rights can help Walton get her video out there by sending tax-deductible checks (payable to Film Arts Foundation) to her at Box 391025, Mountain View, CA 94039.

Chalk one up

Bay Area actor **Kelvin Han Yee** is having a breakthrough year: he's in the upcoming **Clint Eastwood** film *True Crime*, which was filmed in SF, as well as two independents, *Dumbarton Bridge* and *Life Tastes Good*. His portrayal of a small-time Chinese pool hustler in *Chalk* has people talking; the film opens Friday at the Lumiere, and on Sat., Oct. 10, there'll be a *Chalk*-related benefit party for the Tenderloin Action Group, 9 p.m. at Chalkers Billiard Club, 101 Spear St. The cast and crew of the film will be there, as well as pool-shark pros. Tickets are \$25, available at the door or at 273-5408. ▼

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Chat

A gay stopover in Paris

by Tavo Amador

Visiting Paris for a few days before flying on to Athens to board our ship for an eastern Mediterranean cruise, my partner Bob and I stayed in the Marais, the City of Light's reputedly gayest district. Although different from the Castro, "Tatland," or "Homolulu" as it is known, did not disappoint.

Our hotel, the Pavillon de la Reine (named for Anne of Austria, the Spanish-born wife of Louis XIII), faced the elegant Place de Vosges, the oldest square in Paris and the center of the Marais. According to some historical sources, Louis XIII, whose equestrian statue is in the center of the Place, was indifferent to women in general and his wife in particular, and was thought to be Cardinal Richelieu's catamite.

His marriage went unconsummated for years, but one night, frightened by a terrible storm, he sought refuge in the Queen's chambers. Nine months later, she gave birth to the future Louis XIV. A second son, Philippe, Duc D'Orleans, soon followed. Philippe, known as Monsieur, was one of the most flamboyant queens in French history. He frequently dressed in drag, had a grand passion for the handsome Chevalier de Lorraine, was an excellent military commander, and managed to father several children in his two marriages. The present pretender to the French throne is his descendent.

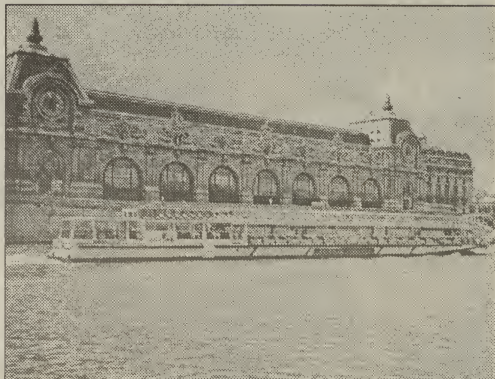
The immediate area around the exquisite Place did not strike us as being particularly gay, but a short walk led to rue Croix de la Bretonnerie, which in the evening definitely is gay. We dined at fresco at a charming restaurant there, Fond du Cour, recommended in the well-written and reliable Ferrari Guides' *Gay Paris* by Gary Kraut.

On a second visit to the same street, I ran into three members of the French order of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. In full habit, they were merrily distributing condoms to all interested parties — I felt as though I had stumbled onto Castro Street.

In the mix

Another night we dined at the ancient Au Tiborg, where the clientele was a mixture of gay men, lesbians, and a few straight/gay couples. In addition to the rue Croix de la Bretonnerie, both the rue de Rosiers and the rue du Bourg Tiborg (all very close to each other) have many gay bars and restaurants, which, on our visits, were crowded. The Marais, however, is not the Castro. It is not a primarily or even heavily gay residential district. But some local shops clearly cater to gays — mainly a bookstore and a few clothing stores.

In the late 17th century, when the Place de Vosges was built, the Marais was the most fashionable district in Paris. A century later it had fallen from favor with the wealthy, and during the late 18th century was filled with working-class families and small shopkeepers and seethed with revolutionary fervor. Still later, it became a heavily Jewish neighborhood — indeed, the rue de Rosiers boasts a synagogue facing a popular gay bar. Several years ago, major restoration and gentrification began, and despite a surprising (for Paris) amount of graffiti, it's



Musee D'Orsay, view from 'Tata Beach'

an elegant and desirable district for living and visiting.

Although the Castro's reputation for uniqueness remains unchallenged, Paris can still offer some things of specific interest to gays that no other city, including San Francisco, can match. Pere La Chaise cemetery is one of them.

On previous visits to the city we had not gone to its most famous graveyard, despite our passion for ancient final resting places. (One highlight of a visit to Buenos Aires was an afternoon spent at *La Recoleta*.) The Argentinians may have Evita's family crypt, but Pere La Chaise boasts, among other residents, Oscar Wilde, Marcel Proust, Gertrude Stein, Colette, Maria Callas, Sarah Bernhardt, and, of course, Jim Morrison.

Map in hand, we found the reputedly homophobic La Divina's ashes in the somber crematorium. Several floral tributes proved that the Greek-American opera diva is not forgotten. Gertrude Stein, however, did not fare as well — not a single rose adorned her austere tomb. Colette also seemed neglected. Proust, fortunately, did better. A double red rose rested in the vase on the sleek black granite marking his burial spot. (A mere five hundred pages is all that stands between me and finishing *Au Recherche du Temps Perdu*, and I promised his spirit I'd read them within the next six months.)

Wilde's memorial, with its Art Nouveau sphinx, showed signs of many visitors. The sphinx's penis was long ago smashed off, reputedly by a puritanical Englishwoman, and it has never been replaced. To the notes and flowers we found, we added a box of matches from the Pavillon de la Reine — it seemed somehow fitting.

Despite our map, we were unable to locate the crypt of the Divine Sarah. We did stumble across Jacques Louis David's tomb, and were disappointed that it was not graced with any nude neoclassical male figures. Having no interest in visiting Mr. Morrison, who reportedly is being moved elsewhere anyway, we left the nearly deserted cemetery and took the wonderful Metro back to our hotel, feeling a bit like real Parisians.

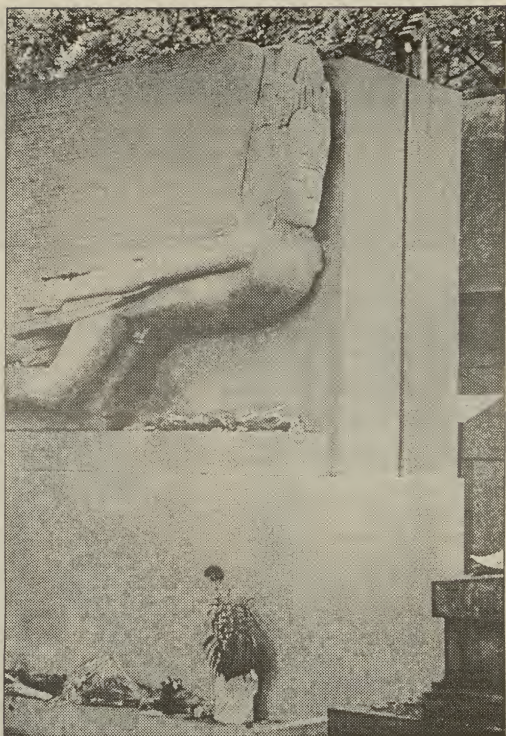
'Tata Beach'

Later, we decided to visit what the Ferrari Guide called "Tata Beach," a strip of the *quai* on the Right Bank facing the Musée D'Orsay. Reportedly popular with local gays for sunbathing, it was deserted on this overcast and cool day. But the views of the Left Bank were splendid. To console ourselves, we took a nostalgic stroll

through the Tuileries and visited the newly renovated Egyptian wing of the Louvre. Spectacular, but very crowded.

Twenty years ago we made our first visit to Paris, and then found only one gay restaurant, Le Vagabond, located near the old opera house. We dined there on a subsequent trip and were happy to read in the Ferrari Guide that it is still in business, even if we didn't get there this time. But it is great that Paris now has many other establishments providing visitors with a glimpse of gay life in the most beautiful of Europe's capitals.

The rest of the trip was splendid, if a bit short on gay-specific highlights. A few exceptions: in Athens we ordered some classic




Oscar Wilde's tomb, Pere La Chaise cemetery

Greek pottery featuring Zeus seducing Ganymede. (Subsequently, we learned that Athenian gay life is centered on the appropriately named Lesbos Street.) We visited the dazzling Temple of Apollo in Didyma, near Ephesus in Turkey, marking the spot where

the god fell in love with a beautiful shepherd boy, Branchus, and gave him the gift of prophecy. (This is our kind of religion.) Finally, in Istanbul, we stayed at the Four Seasons Hotel, which previously had been a municipal jail. If only those walls could talk! ▼

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1998 leather icons: (L to R) Int'l Mr. Deaf Leather Jeff Dell; Int'l Ms. Leather Megan DeJarlais; Int'l Drummer Boy Ryan Goldner, Int'l Mr. Drummer Hervé Bernard, and Int'l Mr. Leather Tony Mills.

Scam artists target leather community

by Mister Marcus

It's not one thing, it's another. For the past two or three years, the leather community — and especially leather title holders — has been plagued by an errant individual (or individuals) attempting outright extortion. It's a scam that dramatically escalated in the past two weeks.

Even before San Francisco's Leather Pride Week began on Sunday, September 20, leather people around the country started receiving calls from someone claiming to be in another city, far from home, and suddenly destitute after being mugged and robbed. Invariably the caller said he or she needed anywhere from \$200 to \$600 to get back home.

When the calls first started, some kindly souls on the receiving end were only too eager to help the "victims." But the good Samaritans were being duped, pure and simple.

The past two weeks has seen a rash of such incidents, mostly perpetrated on leather title-holders. After all, names of these people appear in the gay press all the time. With all the out-of-towners in San Francisco, the scam artist(s) had a field day. Calls were made to Ottawa, Canada, Seattle, Denver, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit and Vancouver, B.C. Each time, the caller claimed to be a well-known leather personality, told a story about getting mugged and robbed in San Francisco or Los Angeles, and asked for money to get back home.

Despite previous warnings of this scam in this column, *The Leather Journal*, and other publications, some people just didn't get the word. A bar owner in Seattle last Monday wired \$200 to San Francisco to bring home Northwest Drummer Boy Erik Leiff, thinking he'd been robbed in San Francisco. In fact, no such thing happened, and Erik was already home in Seattle! Attempts to trace the calls and prosecute the perpetrators have done nothing to stem the barrage of collect phone calls that come almost hourly on some

days, and always from a pay phone.

Until a law enforcement agency higher than local police becomes involved, it is likely that this scam will continue. The best you can do is be aware of where your leather brothers or sisters are visiting on any given weekend. It is prudent also to think it out. A person mugged or robbed would most likely call home to a roommate or lover before prevailing on others to send him/her money. Common sense and calm should prevail. Have the call traced and try to get the caller's phone number for a follow-up. Oh, they are clever. Keep your friends apprised of your whereabouts. These calls usually occur when there is a major leather event taking place in a city. Vigilance and alertness are vital here. Do not be taken in by a sob story from someone you have never met, or check with "informed" leather people who would probably know where major leather events are taking place. Whatever you do, do not send money to anyone you do not know. Repeat: do not send money. This is the third time I have written about this scam. Please take heed. You have been advised!

by Mister Marcus

in the system. The other high level of criticism that emerged is that the owner/publisher of *Drummer Magazine*, Martin Bakker, was nowhere to be seen, and so he is being castigated for his "absentee landlord" status. Robert Davolt, for all intents and purposes the majordomo at *Drummer*, seemed pleased that apparently the regional sponsors were happy with this year's edition of International Mr. Drummer. Only three of them showed up at the post-contest meeting last Sunday morning. The truth of the matter is a majority of them are completely unhappy about certain aspects of the whole contest. Ho hum. This happens every year, so what else is new?

I have tried for more years than I care to remember to enhance the image of *Drummer* and the International Mr. Drummer contest. I have seen numerous contests and am no expert, but what that publication needs is a producer with smarts, moxie, and a non-autocratic attitude. I will not go into the complaints relayed to me. I am only a volunteer trying to make it a memorable experience for all who are involved. You can't win 'em all!

Mr. S.F. Leather 1999

All you would-be titleholders, be hereby advised that the Mr. San Francisco Leather 1999 committee met last week and the official date for next year's contest is Friday, March 26. The 21st person to hold the title will be chosen then. It is hoped that not only independents and bars will have a contestant, but that all the leather-oriented businesses, bike clubs and others who purport to be leather-oriented will field a contestant. With the huge leather population in the Bay Area, it is inexcusable to have only 5 or 6 contestants.

Of course, many men are unwilling to seek a "working title." Unlike many other cities, San Francisco's leather titleholders are expected to "put out," and that does not mean sexually!

POLKSTRASSE

An opening in porn

by Sweet Lips

Now here's an event that puts the "stud" in star-studded! Cum meet and mingle with the models during the official re-opening of Le Salon's "Castro Villa," 4126 18th St., October 17-18 at 10 a.m. Chi Chi La Rue, one of the industry's greatest directors, will cut the ribbon (be careful with those scissors, hon) and guide us into the Villa's courtyard, where porn star Ken Ryker awaits us! Food on Sunday in the a.m. will be provided by Dennis ("kumquats and cumshots") Tyler.

Yes, those rumors you may have heard are true — I shall be tending bar Friday mornings during the month of October. Get the message, Mr. Marlow of Uncle Bert's bar in the Castro?

There's great entertainment nightly at the ever-popular White Swallow bar on Polkstrasse — especially with Gary and Dooley working nights. Trust me, you'll love the piano.

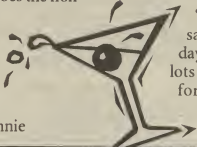
On Saturday, October 10, 2-6 p.m., Jimmy Quinn does the honors at the Rendezvous for a Memorial Gathering for Nick "Nixie" Gardner. Keep Saturday, Oct. 17 open for Ronnie Lynn's earth-shaking 47th (????) birthday bash, and you'd better believe Ronnie will be doing a special show. That's from 4 to 10 p.m., with dancing in the Flamingo Room, and other surprises.

My good friend Sasha is work-

ing Fri. & Sat. nights from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Katie's, formerly the P.S. Drop by and have a drink, Sasha's a great guy — as if you need an excuse to dip into something alcoholic!

The Turf Club in Oakland celebrates their "Lucky 13th Anniversary" on Friday-Sunday, October 16-18 with lots of events, so give it up for this time-honored institution in the East Bay.

The Lone Star Saloon has their great Girth and Mirth Party on Sunday, Oct. 11. It can be a little hard to squeeze through the livin'-large crowd sometimes, but it's always a full-bodied blast, so come on down and belly up to the bar. ▼



Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Fundraising and community commitments are just as important as the glory (or slings and arrows, if warranted), so winning the title is a commitment to a year of "bottoming" to the community. Think before you leap into the fray!

Wedding bells for belles

Somebody up there loves Miranda von Stockhausen and Diana Hardick! Wild geese soared overhead trumpeting the beginning of a wedding ceremony on the grounds of Rengstorff House in Mountain View last Saturday morning, October 3. Friends and family gathered at a Victorian-style wedding that was truly a beautiful event. Orchestrated by the Jeff Tucker Family (Steve and Dan), it was truly a community effort as the happy couple exchanged vows and treated their guests to a gourmet buffet dinner with all the appropriate whines. Congratulations from all in attendance could not have been more sincere for this beautiful pair, who have both served their communities well before, during and after holding major leather titles. Beautiful weather, beautiful people, beautiful couple. ▼



Leather women Miranda von Stockhausen and Diana Hardick exchanged vows, rings, and wine at their wedding on Saturday, October 3.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, October 8

Free STD screening (not HIV) upstairs at 933 Harrison, at 2000, courtesy of Blow Buddies and City Clinic. Call 863-HEAD.

Weekend, October 9-11

Utica Tri's MC host Mr. Upstate Leather & Leather Boy contests; Onyx MC in Chicago stage their 3rd Anniversary weekend run; American Uniform Ass'n. gather for 21st Uniform Review in Portland, Oregon and the 5th annual Queer Bike Invasion of Death Valley for bikers at Zabriskie Point. That butch Jim Edmison stages his unique concrete sculpture show with an open house at 369 Duncan St. from 1100-1800 on Sat. and Sun. A butch show!

Saturday, October 10

Mr. River Business Leather contest at that bar in Guerneville. Winner goes to the Mr. Russian River Leather competition on Dec. 5th. Contest at 2100, with Donna Sachet entertaining/emceeing.

Cal Eagles MC one day ride to Mt. Tam, with lunch at Olema. Meet at 0930 in front of Daddy's, leaving at 1000. Call 267-0560 for details.

Constantines MC beer/soda bust @ Lone Star, 1500-1900, only \$7.

Sunday, October 11

Cal Eagles MC "Oktoberfest" beer/soda bust @

the Eagle, 1500-1800; \$8 with German grub and cruising galore.

Sashing the new SF Leather Puppy, Aaron Marshall, @ Daddy's, with a beer/soda bust for \$7 from 1600-1900.

Tuesday, October 13

One of our finest local photogs, Bill Bowers opens his 20 year retrospective of SoMa, Southern Decadence and Mardi Gras with 65 masterpieces that ooze of sex, outrage & bulging baskets. Reception for this genius at 2000 on Thursday, October 15. Show hangs til October 30. Don't miss it!

Wednesday, October 14

Golden Shower Buddies @ 933 Harrison, with doors open from 2000-2300 only. Call 863-HEAD for details. Surfers welcome.

Thursday, October 15

Constantines MC beer/soda bust @ Daddy's, \$7, from 2000-2300, billed as a "Trashy Halloween Treat."

Saturday, October 17

2nd Annual Hoedown @ the Galleria Gift Center; SF Forum's Progressive Dinner, 22nd Anniv. of Valley Knights in Sacto., and Mr. Northeast Leather contest in Scranton, PA. Details on all this next week!

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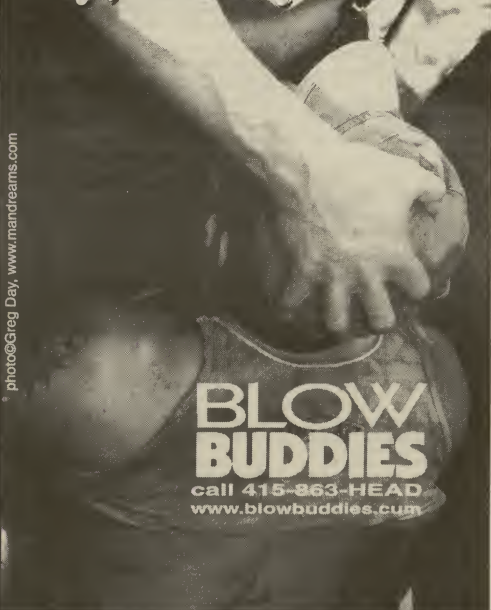
GROUP J/O PARTIES

Tue, Wed and Fri nights (8pm-12M/1am Fri)

If you like to get hard, show off and watch or play with other guys who like the same, these parties are for you. Exhibitionists and voyeurs are equally welcome. Comfortable and laid-back, you can play with others or watch 3 different continuous video screens showing both recent-release and J/O specialty videos. In addition to video-room spaces, adjoining huge warehouse area open for these parties only! Cool lighting, seating, play spaces. Mandatory clothes check 8pm-Midnight Tue & Fri. Clothes check required to enter warehouse on Wed. J/O only. Adm. \$8

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hey, buddy



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photo © Greg Day, www.mandreams.com



this wed october 14

Ball Worship

My 2 huge low hangers are waiting for your hot mouth & tongue. Me: Attractive, GWM, 48, 6'5", 250, football player build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: Attractive, GWM, slim, smooth/moderate bodyhair. ☎ 4030

Wanted: Young and Hung

I'm a goodlooking GWM, 38, 6ft, 185, with short brown hair, and mustache. I'm seeking young guys to suck, and more. Any nationality, but no one over 30. Leave your # ☎ 4031

Hairy WM Toy for Asian Boy

GWM thick hairy chest, mustache, HIV+, 51, 5'10", 170lbs, seeks wrestling and struggle for oral top scenes with Asians 20s to 45. Top me if you can! ☎ 4032

Need a Companion For Dancing?

Weekend trips, music concerts, or just hanging out with? The tickets on me! If you're young enough (under 30) and hung enough (over 9"), I'm a 45yo built versatile G8M. ☎ 4033

Early Morning Delight

SF, handsome stud WM HIV+, 35, 6', 170#, hairy chest, in shape, delivers oral service seek younger cute HIV-, WM to eat ass at my place, discreet, regular basis, monogamous. ☎ 4034

Sunday/Monday Playroom

South Bay hot leather Bear 40, 6'3", hairy/beard, 220lbs; black/wall playroom for massage/suck/fuck/toy/splay or your place SF. Leather, versatile, safe/same A+. ☎ 4035

Blue Jean & T-Shirt Dad Wanted

GWM 34 HIV+ 5'11", 205lbs bottom looking for men who are great hot sex. No relationships just sex. ☎ 4119

Attached To Older Men

I seek a gikky man under 40 for ongoing sex of all kinds. Will train him gay or straight boy to serve me. I'm 74, 5'7", 170, gikky and horny. ☎ 4120

Quality time w/enior 65+

Japanese, warm hearted, attractive, 45, 5'8", 160#, seeks senior 65+, WM, portly, uncult, heavy balls, denture +, for uninhibited regular basis. ☎ 4121

Pussy Need's be F.F.

Mature GWM HIV- 5'2", wants to be fucked & FF. Make me orally submissive & wanting to suck your hot cock. Race & age no factor. ☎ 4122

Seeking HIV+ Muscular Bear Top

This masculine, muscular, 6', 195lb, 32yo, pot bottom seeks like-status big & tall (min 6', 200#) in-shape hairy bearded under 40 for regular fuck sessions. ☎ 4123

Free Massage

GWM, ex-massage therapist, 6', 165lbs, 40, brh/ot offers free massage to lean GWM. G8A Tops, 18-50. Let me rub you the right way. ☎ 4124

Big & Fat

G8M 44yo, 5'11", 250lbs, seek big, heavy and pleasantly fat men for uninhibited sexual connection. My size or bigger only. Discretion. ☎ 4125

Houseboy Companion

Sought 18-35, cooking, cleaning, etc. In exchange for room and board and possibly more. Cabin in country, near Russian River-Mendocino Co., 2 hours north of SF. ☎ 4126

Let's Jack Off

Let's slip out our boners & show off. Play w/our stiff wienies nice & easy. Rub our swollen penis bulges together till we shoot. I'm 45, 5'9", 150#, furry, cleanshaven. ☎ 4128

Top or Bottom? Help me decide!

Anal virgin looking to safely experiment with patient gentle, playful, experienced tops and bottoms. GWM, 30, 5'8", 150, bl/bl, smooth, good-looking. Prefer WM, 20s-30s, smooth or moderately hairy. ☎ 4129

Only a Dog loves a Bone..

There's a big black Oakland bone you need to swallow often, deeply, quickly. Masculine, mobile, sincere, easy-to-reach oral bottoms only. ☎ 4130

Grandson Wanted

18-32, trim, submissive, speakable, HIV-, N/S, N/D, looking for someone to tend to his home, my properties, and me. Uncult, short A+. ☎ 4131

Sonoma Co Daddy

Wants to be dominated by cute, slender boy, 18-35. Flaming I: tease me, make me beg, then sit on my face, fuck my mouth. ☎ 4132

Asians Serviced

WM, 50, provides oral service for asian cock balls, ass, tits, armpits, just kick back and enjoy total body worship. Big cock, uncult or muscular A+. ☎ 4133

Just shut up and Ride!

WM, 33, 5'10", 200lb, blond/blue muscle hunk (48" c 32" w 18" arms) wants good-looking masculine men to pump me or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off- anytime. ☎ 4135

Uncut White Ck Boxers

Ck boxers from M-Thr. Friday no underwear clean my uncut dick. 32yo, Latin, 5'10", 145lbs. U: 18-45, very oral. ☎ 4136

4yr G8 Ass Fantasy Ride My Sling

42yo VGL WM well-built loves great asses & great smiles. Guarantee I'll leave your ass feeling great and smiling big. I am honest, discrete, always safe, U82; novices, couples welcome. Vers. Tops, rider option possible. ☎ 4137

Oral Bk Bot Sks Top or Dom Top

Verbal a plus. Avail in eve & some weekdays. ☎ 4132

Mature Bear Type Seeks Same

Be a lover of big tits and huge nipples. GWM, 58yo, 6', 240lbs, short hairy big goatee, handsome. Uncult a plus. ☎ 4321

Hairy Handsome Daddy

Seeks oral spanky boy, slim to muscular. I'm HIV+. ☎ 4233

Black Master

Looking for white submissive bottom's 18-45, call me now! ☎ 4234

ISO Boot Top

Attractive, good shape bottom young 45, HIV-, 5'7", 147, needs training sessions from good shape, masculine top HIV-, experienced, WM into boots, discrete. ☎ 4235

Black Men W/8" or More...

Who need a regular cocksucking fuck toy. Me: 5'8", 150, hairy chest will be ready to service you when you need it. ☎ 4236

Beastly Big Brother/Dad/Buddy

54, 6'5", 300, gr/bu, tan, healthy seeks younger decent guy. Call me and we'll discuss the details. ☎ 4237

Horny? Kick back & Feed Me

Hot bottom Italian stud, 45, 6', 180, mustache, goatee, buzzcut, insatiable mouth, receptive bottom & loves to eat ass. Castro 12c 5am. ☎ 4238

Sensual Adventures

Wanted with black or latin top men into spread eagle bondage by WM, 43, HIV+, 5'8", 170, muscular, pierced nipples, buzzed dark blonde hair, NS, possible LTR. ☎ 4248

Reverse Slavery Wanted

Sexy Bk dominant tops 25-45 have this 36 yo, white guy as your servant for a day or weekend, cleaning, laundry, ideas? kinky sex, friends, humiliation, naked? ☎ 4239

w m s k s 2 other Bk M N2 gr8 head

Nice big 40s very oral, s k b k m 30-50s to service looks size not important, but decent bod/tool a must. Married ok if hotel top priority. No bs, no hassle, just good head. ☎ 4240

Fuck Buddy Wanted

Tall G8M seeks guy for sex, any race, 25-45, HIV-, 6'6", 220, or taller a +, NS, HIV-. ☎ 4241

Slide in to Slow & Deep

Submissive bottom: WM, 48, 5'8", 175, healthy, pot, nice looking with tight, hungry hole; needs deep, long, safe plowing. ISO: Tops, WM, 8m, 38-55, hot, hung, ready to fuck 4133

Dad Needs Bottom Boy

Top to spanking, possible roleplay. Me: attract, GWM, 48, 250, stocky build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest/stomach. You: attract, GWM 21-35, slim, smooth/moderate bodyhair, nice bums (white, asian, latin). ☎ 4134

25yo Hot Bottom

Seeking well hung tops to pound the ass of this cute, masc, 6' 175# br/bu, HIVpoz GWM. Can you satisfy me? Under 45 Pls. ☎ 4135

HIV- GWM Cocksucker

Looking to service well endowed 7" mid-die aged lean aggressive masculine man. One or more. No reciprocation necessary. I am in my 50s, 5'10", 150#, dark brown hair. ☎ 4136

Strip Me Fuck me Fist me

White, blonde, green eyes, 5'10", 170, 40yo, needs asian, chicoano top. Your place only. First time OK. ☎ 4137

Handsome Top wants some Butt!!

Or a nice soft mouth. 8inches looking for warm holes to fill. I'm insipid, 38, goatee, blonde and love a good time with you. ☎ 4139

Macho Str8 Dude in Berkeley

ISO faggots to talk to on the phone. I have a need to exert my male ego over submissive cocksuckers and fuck boys. Put on those knee pads and call. ☎ 4130

Love Uncut 20 To 40

Black, white, hispanic, you sexy, slender, size unimportant, skin is. Me: 30s blond goodlooking, looking to service you, nice butts too, check me out! ☎ 4132

Ruff Me Up Butch!

GW masculine manboy 48 (looks 30s): 5'5" with tummy, s k s butch guys who like head, and aren't afraid to punch or push short boys up against a wall! Do it! ☎ 4134

Expert Deepthroat Needed

Well-endowed uncult 8M ISO mature, experienced pro to take all of my cockrings too often at your place, city, gymjob, video's, a roma +, no beginners please. ☎ 4135

Want it big & Hard?

8 inches of uncult mammet for your pleasure. If you a sincere fun bottom your the guy for this insipid blond 38yo top. Let's play! ☎ 4136

Cocksucker - Gentle Touch

GWM gives your big cut WM cock-n-balls lotsa deep suck care. UB trim hot stud, straight/unmarried A+. ☎ 4137

Seeking Butch Muscle Dad

Me: 6'1", 190 very well-built #s. Dad: Very muscular, very handsome, butch, (HIV-, I am), top man. I'm willing, eager to please. Let me light your cigar, sir. ☎ 4138

1 or 2 Horsehug Black Cocks

Selective, straight, smooth, sicilian, 5'8", 150lbs, 30" waist, 7.5" cut shaved balls & ass with bikini tan line will be extremely grateful for your cum! ☎ 4139

Opposites Attract

Hot, masculine, muscular, big-dicked Italian top wants a small dick bottom boy, smaller the better. Any race. ☎ 4130

Latino Top Wanted

38yo BM is seeking latino top men, who know's how to take control. Your wish is my command. ☎ 4117

Oral Bottom

Service minded man 47, slim, short beard, had deep throat for face fucker studs, hung, trim to head of line. Cum over, shoot a load. 5E area, car helpful. ☎ 4118

Got Dick? Guys cant take it!

Call this attractive oral expert for awe-some service. No strings no chit chat just good, hard sex. Forget the rest & call the best! ☎ 4119

Small or Slim Men 18-40 wanted

8y 54yo CMT for a free professional-nurturing, Swedish Massage which can be followed by optional erotic Taido or Tantric massage. Less muscular preferred. Daytime appts. Haight Panhandle area. ☎ 4120

River Phoenix type Searching...

Loud & clear for adventure, change, a shift in awareness from older/mature, spiritual gentlemen. ☎ 4121

Let's Jack Off!

Let's slip out our boners & show off. Play w/our stiff wienies nice & easy. Rub our swollen penis bulges together till we shoot. I'm 45, 5'9", 150#, furry, cleanshaven. Asian A+. ☎ 4122

Want J/O Addict Buddies

GWM, 30, thin, totally addicted to J/O, jacks naked for hours, days, wants like-minded buddies for repeated, obsessive, cum spurting marathon sessions. Under 35, trim, South Bay A+. ☎ 4124

Butts UP Doc?

GWM, 35, 5'9", 160, bm, bn, stache, good body/looks oral top, anal virgin ISO gentle, patient white amateur proctologist 28-40 for my first time. HIV- only. ☎ 4125

You On Your Knees

Dominant muscular G8M, 34, 5'9", 174#, seeks submissive well-built men for body worship, assplay and hot scenes. ☎ 4126

Kick Back- Feel Good

Expert service provided for hot, hunky, muscular, masculine men. Cock and balls massaged and BJ. 6-12 or more thick inches receives special attention. when you need it bad! ☎ 4127

Love to Eat Your Own Cum???

GWM, 40, 40, WM, 40, dad gets horny when you cum a big load on your belly. Dad likes to coat his dick with it till you slurp it down. Then dephroat dad's? how till it explodes! ☎ 4123

Young Boy to Travel?

GWM 45, 5'10" 150# in-shape masculine, good looking wants GWM 18-25, youthful, likes sex, masculine, boyish for travel. Maui/Camell Meet in SF? live in Mtry/Penn area. ☎ 4128

Just Shut Up And Ride!

WM, 33, 5'10", 200lb blond/blue muscle hunk wants good looking masculine men to pump me or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off. anytime. ☎ 4129

Like to Show Off?

Muscular big-dicked Italian top likes to photograph in-shape men. I don't care about your race, age, or endowment. Masculine, hardbody men only. ☎ 4134

South Bay Cocksucker 39yo Asian

Husky bottom, 185, 5'11", prefer guys under 40 with average cock, no reciprocation. Your place, white guys only please. ☎ 4130

A matter of Height

Average tall GWM 50s HIV-, professional, G8A Fr A/P, smoker. Grounded, witty into long rimming sessions seekin', cocksucker, buttkickin', Bottomboy to worship, for oral gratification. Glasses A+. ☎ 4131

Dark Guys Wanted

Looking for Latino-Arab, Mediterranean guys. For casual dating and adventurous fun. Me: WM 27, 5'10", 153lbs, green eyes, it hair, French German, fun + + + + UC hairy older. ☎ 4132

Sit On My Face Tonight

Very handsome & hot Italian, 45, 6', 180#, goatee, excels in eating ass. Castro 12-5 am. Come experience the best! ☎ 4133

ISO Gay/BI Men Or Info

Sacramento Yuba City area. I am GWM HIV- 55yo, 5'2", 7", hairy ass & hot mouth. ☎ 4138

Asian Man Wanted East Bay

White dirty blond/blue, tall. Prefer versatile uncult 20s or 30s. Berkeley or SF. ☎ 4131

Like to Suck A Cock & Fucked

GWM 50 5'11" 175 HIV- NS ND. Like to find a person 30-40 Bk or White to a n ice 7" dick and get fucked and more watch videos. Pls call. ☎ 4123

Older Black Topman w/Titanic Rod

Seeks husky, experienced masculine, mature bottoms. Please no super busy, impossible to reach, never leave SF phones. This is real. ☎ 4135

FETISHES**Suck Off & More**

Your cock in my throat. My tongue in your slit hole. Your balls full of protein and bladder full of hot piss. Same day/night call back. Be under 35. ☎ 4044

Character Through Discipline

Stern, punishing headmaster, Frat paddle master, corporal punishment coach demonstrate small pain is big character gain. ☎ 4045

Bondage Top

Experienced bondage top, 40, 5'8", 155, attractive, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 25-40, for erotic bondage play. Safe, discreet, SF, East Bay. ☎ 4046

Daytime Asshole-Eater!

Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 4047

Big Muscular Curious CBT Top

Wanting to explore other side with same experienced practitioner of slow, intense CBT, TT and power exchange. Me: Good-looking, 48, tattooed, buzzcut, mustache, HIV-, Aroma, etc. ☎ 4048

Ass Eater

Ass eater available with long wet tongue. Cum sit in my rim chair. In shape tops only. ☎ 4049

Ball Players Club

A network of men who love nuts (pumping, saline, stretching, weights, silicone, etc.) Ball party's, newsletter, photo and info exchange (e-mail or reg mail). ☎ 4050

Seeking Asian Cigar Lovers!!

Attractive GWM 40 seeks smooth Asian guys 20-40 who enjoy kicking back with a big cigar. Let's take turns doing one another while we enjoy a smoke! 4051

Fantasy/Nudity/Eroticism

GAM gym toned 38, seeks a goodlooking, lean muscular G8M, 28-40, for unconventional S/M, BD, CBT, maybe take picture or video together. We may start something good and unexpected. ☎ 4052

Wet Clothes Fantasy

Soaking wet levis, T-shirts, fully clothed showers, swims. Me: 41, 5'6", 140#, athletic, muscular, dk, hair/beard, hairy. Let's get wet together! ☎ 4053

Seeking Intense B&D Training

Gdk 27yo 5'7", 145, clean-cut, spanish/pac Islander ISO 8&D top 2 torment my cock/balls/nips, while I'm helplessly bound gagged blindfolded. Who is gk, well-built, blu/grey eyes, NS HIV-. ☎ 4134

Hard Muscled Party Pigs Wanted

Pierced, tattooed, beefy muscle leather ranch pig with xtra long fat meat looking to play rough and nasty with either versatile to top rugged, well hug muscle pigs. ☎ 4054

Nasty? Horny???? Like to Cum?

Good looking GWM, 38, pot, seeks young nasty men to eat my butt, suck my cock, and worship my mouth, while I lick back, have a beer, watch porn. Daytime only. ☎ 4139

My Fantasy Takes 2 Mouths

One to rim my ass while one guzzles liquid gold from my big, hard dick. Will my fantasy be realized? Thirsty, hungry pervers needed. kinky mind important, age, looks not. ☎ 4140

Uncut unc

WM 50s clean healthy daytime drinker on fixed income, seeks same. I do oral drain hose no reciprocation. ND, sincere, your place, WM, LTM, ☎ 4141

I Squat, You Lick...

Nasty talkin', joystick wearing TopMan into long rimming sessions seekin', cocksucker, buttkickin', Bottomboy to worship his dick, balls & butthole. ☎ 4142

Let's bare our Soles!

Lifelong attraction to men's barefeet. Crave mutual barefoot kissing, tickling, smelling, caressing, toe wrestling, Roles, fantasies, JO EB sensual GWM w/toe ring, 5'9", trim, tan, hairy, HIV- loves barefooting! ☎ 4242

Exhibitionist 7am-1pm weekdays

Seeking sadists/voyeurs. Me: HIV+, tall, naked, obedient, 37, eager. Into: showing off, heavy titwork, slapping, C/B, ass, head-trips. You: in control, shared interests more important than looks age. ☎ 4243

Bondage Slave Wanted

Muscular/Male looking for butch white slave boy for training. Master is 6', 210, hairy chest, muscular, 50s; you be serious, fit and eager to submit. ☎ 4244

Baseball players

Majors, minors and college players only! Uniform required. 34yo seeking GWM 18-40yrs slim and trim for safe fun ballplay, discreet. ☎ 4245

Chubby men

LM 42, 6', 155lbs. ISO husky & heavyset men who enjoy lots of kissing, affection and oral action. Facial hair A+. Not into gay lifestyle, gyms, drugs. ☎ 4247

Submissive Servant Sought

through cleaner. Sexy work for reward for yng GWM bl/bl/d, friendly, real. No complaints no STD. Give up control, back and call. Casual LTR? ☎ 4332

Smoke buddies Wanted

46yo seeking mutual smoke-sex scene. Fantasies/Fetishes understood, and indulged. HIV-, goodlooking. Vanilla to raunch. ☎ 4333

Cum Sit For A Spell

Goodlooking GWM, 45, 6'4", 215lbs has wet hungry tongue for deep cleaning and eating raunchy



Juliana Hatfield

In 'Bed' with Juliana Hatfield

by Gregg Shapiro

From the ear-splitting guitar intro of "Down On Me" to the dark folk strains of "Let's Blow It All" on her album *Bed*, you realize that Juliana Hatfield has probably seen more than most of us, and has had the good grace to turn her experiences into songs. As she sings in "Running Out," "Everyone alive is a survivor, and everything's the matter." Truer words have almost never been spoken.

Gregg Shapiro: The other day I interviewed Melissa Ferrick, who, like you, was once part of Atlantic Records' female-heavy roster, and has since been dropped, but has signed to an indie label. What about your experiences with Atlantic? How it is that *Please Do Not Disturb* and *Bed* appeared on indie labels (Bar None and the Rounder-distributed Zoe)?

Juliana Hatfield: First, I want to say that I wasn't dropped from Atlantic. I begged them to let me go. And they let me go, but they made me beg. After I finally got out of the contract with Atlantic, I had so much stuff recorded that I just wanted to put some of it out quickly, and independent labels can get stuff out fast.

What led you to ask to leave?

It's such a typical scenario. There was a big turnaround at the label. A different president came in. A whole different staff of people. I think that a lot of people weren't appreciated by the new bunch of people. The people that had been signed by the former regime were not appreciated by the new regime, because they had different ideas. It's as simple as that.

"Backseat" is one of the most spiritual songs you've ever written. It also has a "theme song" quality to it. Do you consider it your theme song?

All of my songs are my theme songs. I wouldn't say that it sums up my world view, it's more like it was when I was feeling like I wanted someone else to drive my life. You want to take a backseat to life sometimes. Sometimes life just becomes so out of control and confusing and tiring that you just wish someone else could take the reins of your life. That's how I was feeling when I wrote it. At the end, it's a pretty optimistic song. It starts out with me wishing someone else could help me, but

by the end of the song, I'm reassuring someone else that it's gonna be okay.

Todd Phillips, who played with you on "Become What You Are" and "Hey Babe," is back on *Bed*. What is it about your working relationship that allows you to continue to work together?

I think it's an unhealthy co-dependent relationship. He knows what I want musically, and he can do it fast. I'm really lazy and he can kind of read my mind.

Bed just received an A- in *Entertainment Weekly*. Does it feel as much like a return to form for you as the press seems to think it is?

That magazine has always been really nice to me. Somebody there likes me. I haven't seen too much press. The reviews I've read have generally been pretty good. I feel like it's the start of something new and good. I feel like I've entered a new domain for me. Some people think it's getting back to something that I got away from. They think I got off the track with my *Only Everything* album, like I got on this weird rock track. It's all just a continuation of really melodic folk stuff to me.

Can you tell me about when you played the homeless angel on *My So-Called Life*?

I think we did it before the show was actually on TV, on the air. They sent me a bunch of advance copies of the show, and I just felt like, "Wow, this is a really radical, amazing thing, and I definitely want to be a part of it." At first they just wanted me to write a song for the episode. Then they met me and they thought I looked like I could play this part. So I ended up playing the song I wrote and playing the angel. It was pretty hard, because I hadn't done much acting. But, it was really exciting to actually do scenes with Claire Danes, because she's pretty amazing to see work, up close. It was a completely excellent experience. I'm glad I got the chance to do it.

Would you rather be a contestant on or a category in VH1's *Rock & Roll Jeopardy*?

I'd rather be a category, definitely. I don't like to draw attention to myself. I don't like cameras. ▼

Juliana Hatfield plays Bottom Of The Hill on October 10 & 11.

PERSONALS

BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

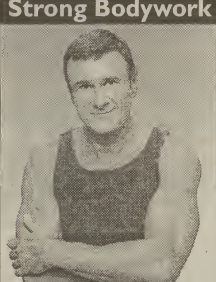
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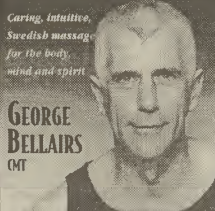
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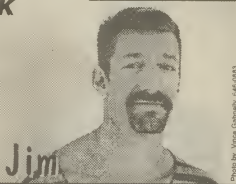
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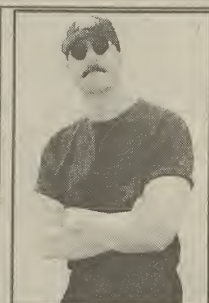
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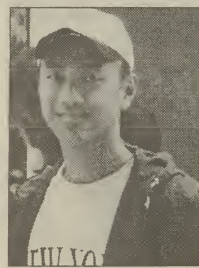
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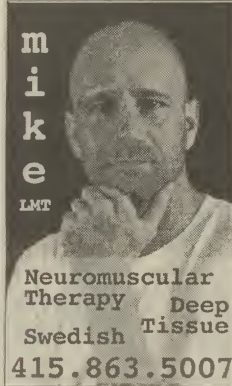
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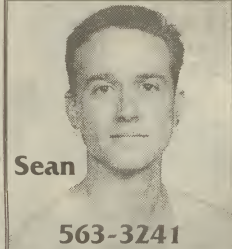
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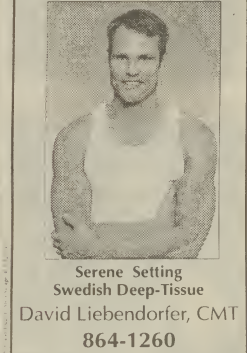


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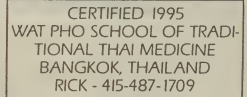


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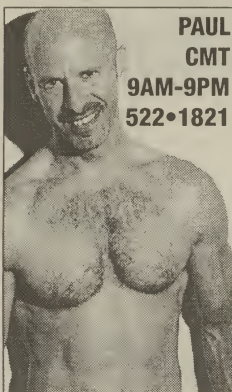
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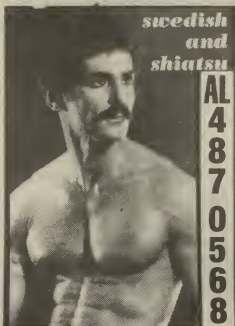
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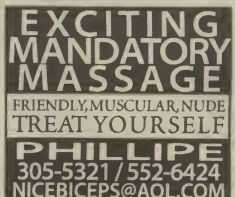
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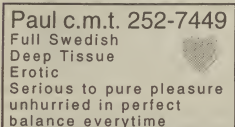
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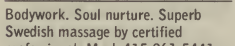
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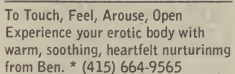
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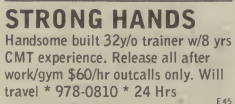
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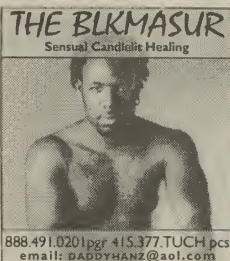
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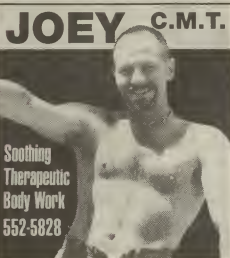
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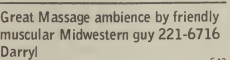
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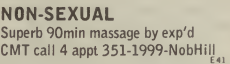
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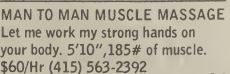
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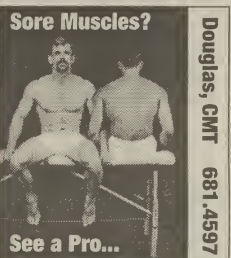
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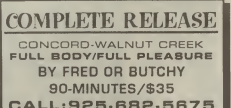
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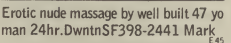
Give Daddy a call
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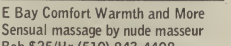
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Massage, 40s 6'3" 210# \$60 Erik
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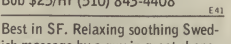
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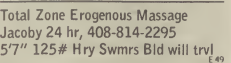
Best in SF. Relaxing soothing Swed-
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221-6716 * Darryl



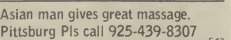
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For soothing relaxing touch
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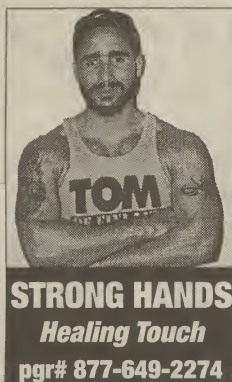
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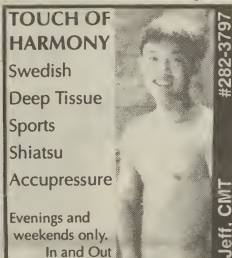
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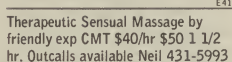
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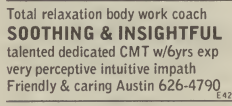
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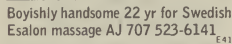
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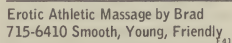
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Full body massage offers nurturing
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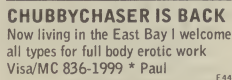
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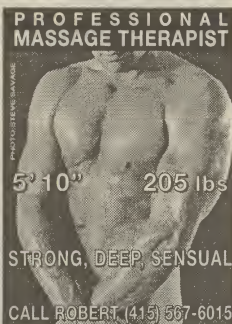
Boishly handsome 22 yr for Swedish
Esalon massage AJ 707 523-6141



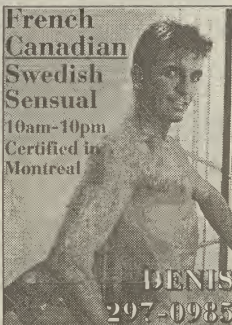
Erotic Athletic Massage by Brad
715-6410 Smooth, Young, Friendly



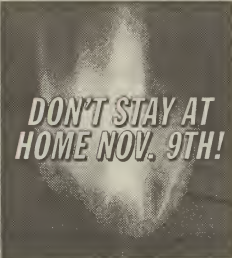
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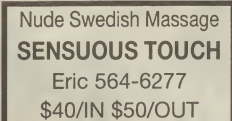
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Certified in
Montreal
BENTS
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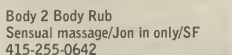
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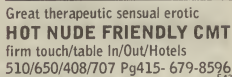
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SF HOTELS TOO!



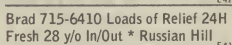
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East meets West
by Indonesian Dancer
Amron 415-709-2367 (Pager)



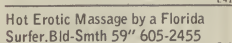
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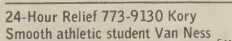
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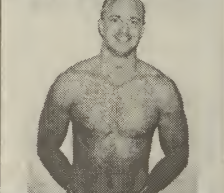
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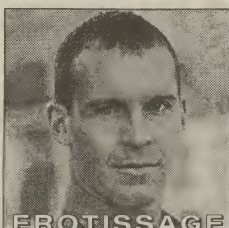
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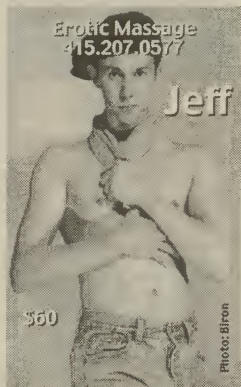
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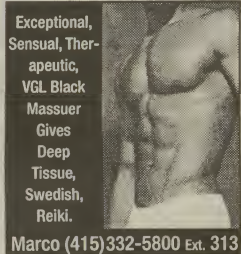
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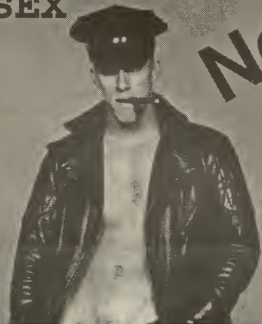
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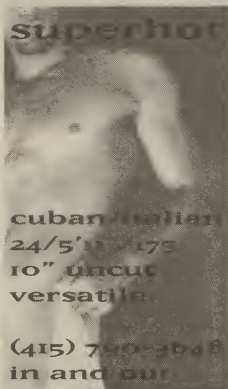
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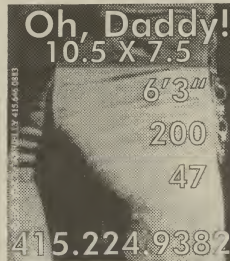
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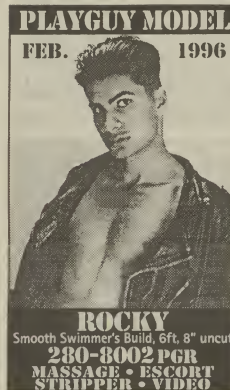
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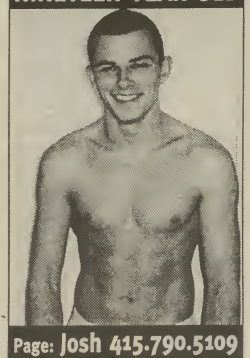
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8" Stud*Oral*J/O*346-4966*Ken \$60

9X6 24 - HOURS
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All American smooth tight lean
5'7" 135#, blue eyes, 36 yrs
Versatile, cuddly, call Marcel
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Hard raw tight long thick, juicy stud
A real 9X7 Experienced Top
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ALL MAN ALL MUSCLE
HOT THICK DISCREET
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I GET SO HOT!
Agency model 19 can't get enough.
Cleancut hung gymbody gets hard
and works you out. Sexysexysexy
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Italian stud, black hair brn eyes
6ft, swimmer's build, defined chest
& legs, bedroom eyes, beautiful ass,
8" uncult. Outcalls Pref/hotels. Gino
22, model looks Hourly/all night
Don't you want it now! 436-0402VM

GREEK GOD
6', 150lbs, Thick jet-black hair.
Long eyelashes, defined, lean, toned
chest, beautiful sexy yummy ass.
Twin mounds of pleasure!
Affectionate, passionate, exclusive
classy model looks serious, generous
discriminating clients. Hourly &
overnight rates. Hotels. SF based.
Nick 731-4168

MAN WITH A FIST - TOYS
Need a helping hand? Slow*Easy*Firm
I'm great with beginners thru advanced
Give it up to Nikos 885-1471 Nob Hill

47yo 6'3" gym-toned 200lbs dad
MAGNIFICENT 10.5X7.5 TOOL
Castro in calls 120 415-224-9382

LET'S GET IT ON!
Cute 24yo Friendly and Sexy
5'8" 155lbs w/brown hair/eyes
\$100 In/out Call Chris 245-7106

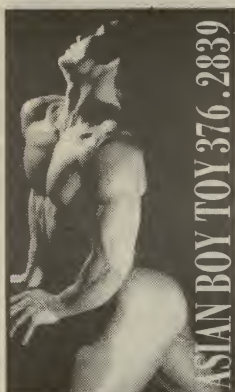
HUNG MUSC BEAR
Muscle stud will drive you to Heaven
Hung hot 6'1", 230#, Pgr 313-9946

CUTE BOY
21 & Hung. Sexy Swimmers Build.
Blonde/Blue. Hans 415-270-9418

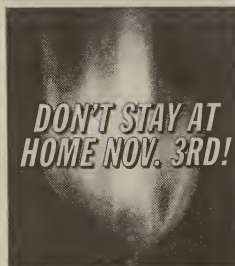
CAPABLE
Hot big & muscular w/large steel rod
Lkg for places to put it. Pg 313-9946



MODELS/ESCORTS



ASIAN BOY TOY 376-2839



X-construction wrkr, built like a **BRICK HOUSE**
Thick arms & Legs. Powerful hairy chest & butt muscles on xxhandsome 33yo stud. Blue eyes, shaved head, goatee 5'11" 195#. Dirty Talker 201-6533. OUT Only

26yo Hunk Latin Top wants u to Feel the Tropical Heat!! In/Out
ANDRES 807-5079

ALL AMERICAN MALE
Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung 6'4", 195#, Blond/Blue, Friendly
Page Adam 24 Hours 207-8089

BUFF SKINHEAD BOTTOM
You Tell Me What
208-8354 Out calls only

SEXY HOT LATIN STUD
8" Thick 155# vers Tony510-266-9112

SPANKING BY BIG PECS
Muscle Dad Discipline Pecsplay.
Dad/son/coach scenes \$85/session
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ALL AMERICAN MALE
Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung 6'4", 195#, Blond/Blue, Friendly
Page Adam 24 Hours 207-8089

Super Handsome Stud, Great Body
HARD TO SWALLOW
No Attitude No Lies 9X6" 207-5315

Hot Handsome & Hung oral Top 26yo
LOW HANGIN' LAD!
Clint*313-2531 Big nuts Buzzcut & Goatee. In/Out Goodtimes Anytime!

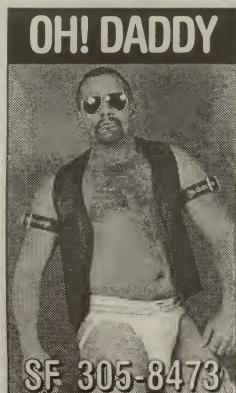
*******WOOF*******
HOT TOP MAN
5'10", 180#, shaved head moustache
Ripped Abs. Big Nipples. 9 1/2" Handsome and Butch. In/Out
Jake 415-679-3563 Pgr

Sexy, friendly, muscled top. I'm 29 with a hard; defined gymnast body, broad shoulders, great chest, popping biceps, handsome face, 8 hard, sweet inches offering hot, sensual, intimate times with mutual respect and no attitude. \$120 Jeff 679-8487 Vm/Pg

22yr, cute, defined, boyish, 24/7
GERMAN/ITALIAN BOY
5'8", 140lbs, 7" cut - versatile
Page Kevin 605-5328 out only.

DOMINANT BI-TOP
THE REAL MAN YOU WANT
STONE 241-1595
Out only.

HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO
28 Smooth & muscular for massage and Erotic play. Alan(415)626-7410

9" CUT
415-841-6294

SF 305-8473

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Leatherman specializing in W/S
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2 Rockhard smooth, globes of Butt!
29yo 24Hr 650-592-4620

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Worship, rim seat & pump. 538-9588

CLEAN-CUT MUSCULAR
Blond, good mouth, cute butt, friendly. Big peks. Horny Handsome 5'10" 165lb. 510-841-0756

29yo 6ft 170lbs of a stunning
EUROPEAN MODEL
Gorgeous, vivacious, loquacious cut & top. Jeff (415) 245-2103 out.

EROTIC
21yr old boy, swimmer's build. Chiseled face, olive complexion, 6ft. Defined chest & legs, 8" thick uncult. Beautiful yummy ass! 150lbs. Black hair, brn eyes. Outcalls/Hotels Rex 731-4168 Serious generous callers only. Hourly/All night.

X MILITARY VERS BOY
6'2" Blond Blue 185lbs Bubble Butt 8X6, flat stomach, creative. Passionate & Discreet.
Page Andrew 415-679-8675

Big Juicy Hard Tool
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\$125 5'7" 8 dependable hard inches. Always horny, great looking. In/Out Ask for Jose (415) 861-7399 24hrs

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In/Out. Jimmy 212-0956 SF

Have equipment and playspace.
Scott (415) 790-0902 IN/OUT
http://www.netcom.com/~puddles1scott/index.html6'1", 140#, 25, 8" Top
Affectionate or Domineering
VM: (415) 393-9020

MIX BOY OF EURO-ASIAN
22yrs old. Smooth swimmers built. 135lbs 5'7" handsome; sexy 8" uncult Out only 527-6495

Xavier 20 5'10" 150# 8in-smooth Swim build pgr#510-281-3128 Out.

VERY SEXY 24 YR OLD
5'10" 145# 7" firm bodied hot queer boy for escort or massage. Out calls only. Luke 510-716-5560

Please Play Safe 4 Everyone

BIKE MESSENGER
5'9" 175lbs In/Out
415-487-6368

23yo Tan hairy hard body swimblid
HOT ITALIAN BOY
Model Looks 5'8" 135# br/br 791-3390

J/O strip show, tall, smooth, hot, hung 550. Matt Converse 441-9198

Foot fetish dream team! Two sexy guys. \$120 for both! Tall, lean, size 11 hot 19, size 12 1/2! Bpr834-8170

LEATHER/SM/FANTASY
39yo top 6'1", 195#, 7" uncult, flattop Gd. kink. into bondage, S/M, W/S, F/F, CBT, violet wand, toys, boots. Beginner-? Have playspace & equip. Scott(415)790-0902Pg#IN or out.

GOOD LOOKING ITALIAN
6'1" 180lbs Nice body 9+ thick" Always Horny. Pg Dave 267-3305

BODY PERFECT HOT & SEXY
Defined, muscular, versatile, bottom straight acting German Belgium? "cut Discrete porn type \$100/out pg3034895

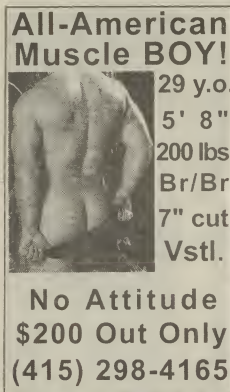
Handsome 22yo W/packed shorts
SOCCER JOCK
Lean, Athletic Body-Versatile Kevin Pg# 605-5328 out only 24/7

Eager To Please

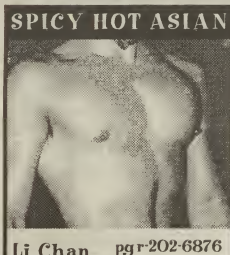
SEXY MAN BOY
Russian Irish 6'1" 185lbs Thick 8" Friendly, discrete. Steve pgr 253-2264

TWENTY YR OLD 10 INCHES UNCUT
Short Blond hair blue eyes 5ft 10" 150# Smooth toned swimmers bld Extremely attractive, SF only. 27 inch waist 38 chest. Australian. Page 790-5076 Out calls only.

Hunk makes you obey on your knees. Fee. Outcall. 510/466-0455

29 y.o.
5' 8"
200 lbs.
Br/Br
7" cut
Vstl.
No Attitude
\$200 Out Only
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Li Chan pgr 202-6876

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Avail Escort/Massage 36c. Lea Clean Discrete - 415-210-2677

Black male Top very sexy 145lbs 56 Tall Smooth skin and very charming. Outcall in SF Bay JR. - 415-648-7391 Mail box #2.

IDEAL ESCORT
Extremely hot and hung like a horse Smooth boyish - safe a must \$100 cash min. Stephen 303-7503 pgr

GREAT LOAD
Honest 8 1/2" thick cut tool-w-Large Smooth Low Hangers. Full bush, tan Ripped Abs. Chest hair, Great pecs Blond 28yr muscular workout body Real handsome 170# 30" wst 5'11" top stud firm performance. Nice ass Genuine Knockout Discrete, groomed Totally accurate ad. In/Out \$100
SF CALL - 415-629-0003

Clean-cut, no tattoos, not pierced. Smooth, lean, muscular body. 168# **UNCUT 10X6 THAT GETS HARD** *****Guarantee or no Fee*****
\$100 - IN/OUT: 505-4199

25yo, 5'8", 150#, cute, muscular
ANYTIME ASIAN
P 415-313-9537 out. \$120 Top only

Masculine intimate affection
BEAUTIFUL BODY
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Rock Hard 8" 408-547-2258

MEXICAN - 21YO
Hot Cute Sexy Fun. Anytime After 3pm. \$100. Leo 415-709-0345

NEW HOT SEXY ASIAN BOY
24yo Gd kink VNM 5'7" 136# Hung Masc cln-cut smooth new to SF790-0394

BOTTOM LATINO BOY
Good Looking versatile. Great ass always Hot, 26yo 5'6" 150lbs \$80 in \$100 out Call Carlos 415-346-0752 Every Day After 3:00pm.

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30yo blond & blue eyed German Top Thorsten is back!!!! 5'10" 150# 8c" toned tight body W/great pecs, abs & ass. Out only! Pgr 415-792-3824

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Discrete, quality relaxation \$120 Berkeley. In (510) 841-8181 Steven

24 YEARS IN AGE, 5'9" IN HEIGHT, 189 LBS

Smooth, Very Muscular Body with 9" Erect and a Well Built Ass... Chocolate Complexioned, Masculine, Sporty and Loves Men's Hands, Mouths and Their Feet... Only Serious Inquiries. Out Only. Talk to You Soon!

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Cell Phone/Pgr

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23, BLOND, BLUE-EYED, TAN
SMOOTH, LEAN & MUSCULAR
VERY HANDSOME, CLEAN-CUT
AFFECTIONATE, PASSIONATE
\$120 DYLAN 406-8618

Muscular 37 6'4" 200#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 SEAN 280-5062

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FRIENDLY ATTRACTIVE OPEN
MIND WILL NOT DISAPPOINT YOU
IN ANY WAY. SERIOUS CALLS
ONLY 270-0898

Clean, good hands & playful 8" cock
19YO MUSICIAN/ARTIST
Boyish, cute & sinewy 5'9" 140#. Blk hair/blu eyes. Exp. Dom&Fetishes SF's Best! \$80 -120 In/out 974-6083

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Hairy, 39, 165#, Goatee, Tattoo's Versatile - bottom. Dave 647-5274

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CUTE 24YR OLD
135lbs 5'8" Brn/Brn Smooth
Clean-cut call Chad 241-9381

Total Top Hot Bod 888-200-1344
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ASIAN BOY
21yo, slim, and smooth body sexy. Hot! In/Out 597-1360

SEXY 20YO ASIAN BOY
5'6", slim, toned, young, smooth
HOT 21YO WHITE BOY
6'2", slim, hung, boyish for strip/oral show. 739-9217pgr. SF and out calls only. \$120 Hot!

TIGHT ASS STREET BOY
Hot Sexy 26yo white boy 5'8" 140# Br/Br goatee, vers 24Hr 560-5851

NEW BOY
Passionate soft skin. Swimmers build. Jason 23yo Out only - pgr 207-8285

HOT SPANISH BOY
28yo bottom. Out only 931-0777

MAN-O-GRAM
Male theater dancer
Defined sexy well-equipped
Pick up or delivery
272-2952 Rich

I DIDN'T GET SPANKED ENOUGH last week! Want to try agin cocoa bottom still needs burning Earl Pg 415-208-3497 soft to agonizing.

SMOOTH HOT BOY
24yo 5'11" 155# swim bld really cute Honest & fun. Call Kyle @ 376-6396
Muscular Man 925-689-6076

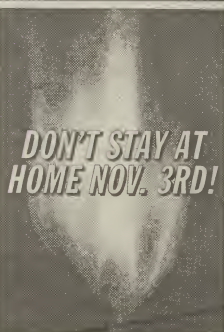
PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

FRENCH MARINE
Bodybuilder,
220lbs, 6'1", 52ch, 21"A,
26 years.
New in town from
Paris, France
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Are you a man with a unique imagination?
Special cravings? Enjoy erotic
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Mild to edge. Private playroom.
Call **LEATHERMASTER**
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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &
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RICK 431-0959



**DON'T STAY AT
HOME NOV. 3RD!**

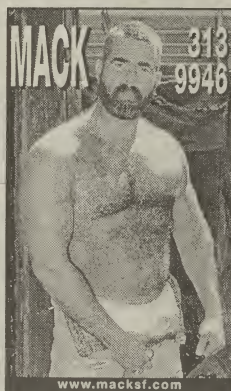
YOUNG DOMINANT LATINO
22yrs, 6', 160#, smooth, uncut, good
looking, seeks subs to worship &
service me. Antonio 415-664-6452

21 LATIN STUD
5'8" 158 8". Pgr 414-0132 - 24hrs

TOP GUY
Handsome built young ex-military
Jock: Call Joe 207-9174 (pgr)

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By a sweet nude 25yo with a nice
body, hairy chest, legs. Very nice
butt, cock, balls. Release with a cute
easygoing guy. Outcalls- Anywhere
in SF Bay. 510-912-8812 Brice

ENEMAS FETISHES
With a cute nude 25yo 510-912-8812



Berliner
Bratwurst
handsome, 29 y, 5' 9",
150 lb,
8"uncut; 100.-/90min
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www.berlinboy.com

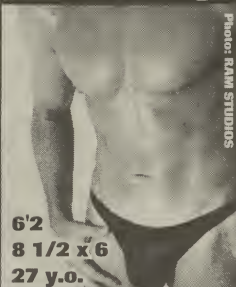
NEW HOT SEXY ASIAN BOY
24y GdLkng VNM 5'7" 136# Hung.
Masc clin-cut smooth new to SF790-0394
SMOOTH HOT VERSATILE
24 5'11" 150# Tight swimmers build
Very cute. Out calls 376-5136 Kyle

FARM BOY
HANDSOME, HORSE-HUNG
23 BUTCH ALL-AMERICAN
6'3" 180# SMOOTH TIGHT
BODY TOP. PGR 313-4041
IN/OUT. FAST CALLBACK

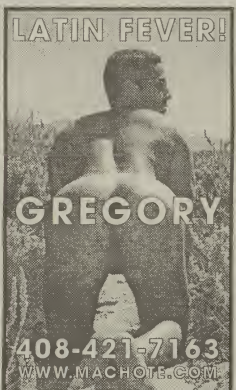
HOT SALSA!
Masculine
Hispanic 24yo
Jock - Handsome
Swimmers body
Hung for your pleasure.
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Hot Asian. Hung hndsme, grt chest.
Massage SM rassling JO dinner. Bpr
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6' 200# Thick Montana Muscles
NO CITY BOY.....
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head & goatee. Hard working, hard
lovin' man. Dirty talker.
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Ex-Marine
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CLEAN-CUT MIDWEST BOY
New In Town 27, 5'10", 160#
Tight Body W/Ripped Abs
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\$120
6'2", 200lbs, 8" cut
ROCK 224-4523

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5'10" Solid muscle 81/2" cut
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Lean and Hairy 5'8" 140# 30yo
FIST MASTER
SM, BD, CBT, Feet, Raunch
Rusty: 215-8396 or page 414-2815

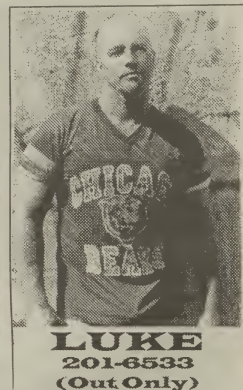
SMOOTH SURFER BOY
26yo Lng blind hair smth & toned
Bangs your ass - gentle to rough
Easygoing *safe* Jared 385-1983

FRESH YOUNG BOY 20YO
Lean swimmers body, smooth and
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SIZE 12 FEET
21YO 6'2" WM. HOT
\$60 SF/out only. 739-9217 24HRs

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Address

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Number of Issues

Classification

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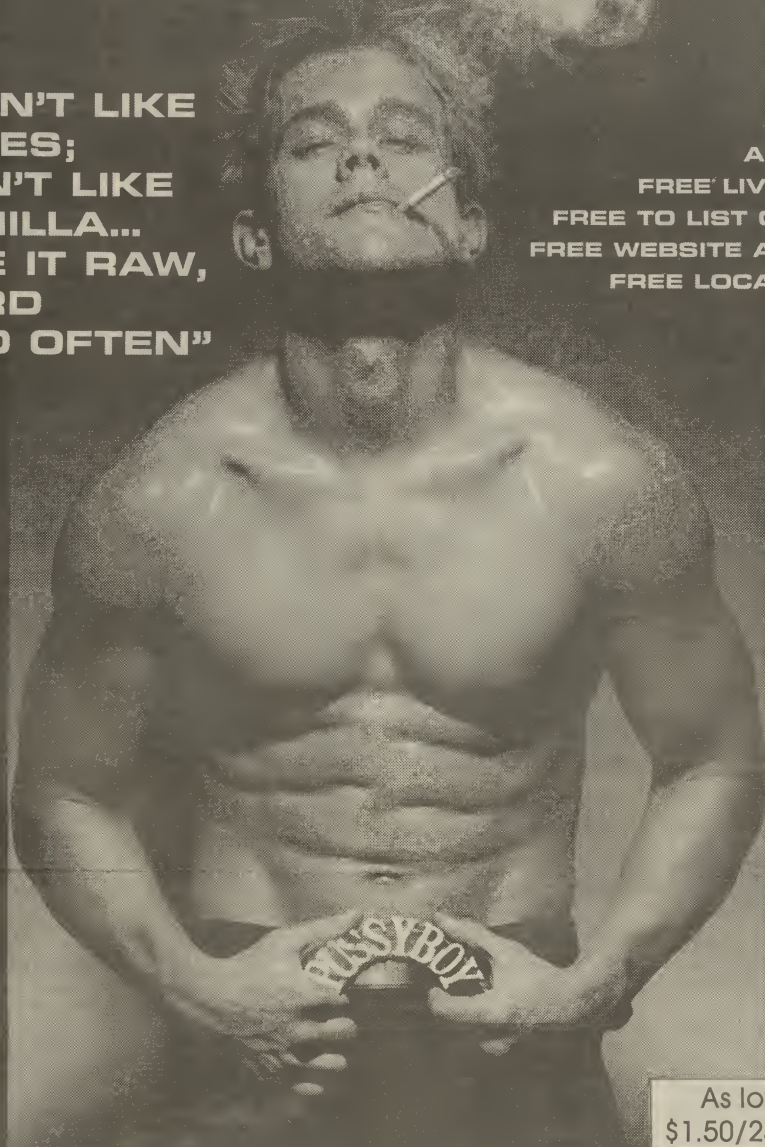
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